POTENTIAL FOR GROWTH

Report of

The Baie Verte Peninsula Task Force

July 1982

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Baie Verte Newfoundland

The Island of Newfoundland

The Baie Verte Peninsula

Baie Verte, NF
AOK 1BO
1982 07 07

The Honourable Neil Winsor, Chairman
Resource Policy Committee of Cabinet
Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
St. John's, NF

Dear Minister:

In October 1981 you were pleased to appoint, on behalf of the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Baie Verte Peninsula Task Force. Our assignment was to "look at any and all economic opportunities for future development of the Baie Verte Peninsula."

Over the past eight months we have conscientiously conducted our research. We have enjoyed the co-operation of all those with whom we have come into contact. The input we have received has been of a high calibre. The co-operation of all departments of government has always been evident. Your own understanding and encouragement have been greatly appreciated.

Our initial research is now complete and it is with much pleasure that we present for your consideration this Report entitled, "Potential For Growth". The findings and recommendations therein are made after a careful analysis of the information gleaned from all sources.

It is our hope that we may continue to serve the interests of the people and communities of the Baie Verte Peninsula in the months ahead.

On a personal note, may I share with you my very high regard and appreciation of the members of the Task Force whose chairman it was my privilege to be. Their conscientious, incisive and time-consuming involvement in the work was always accompanied by a willing, cheerful and supportive disposition. The secretarial skills of Father William Matthews

have particularly made our task that much easier.

Yours very sincerely,
For and on behalf of the
Baie Verte Peninsula Task
Force

D. M. Parry, Chairman

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our greatest debt is owed to the inhabitants of the Baie Verte Peninsula who contributed so much to our research. Their background knowledge and personal involvement in various industries enabled them to offer constructive and useful suggestions.

The co-operation received from various government officials far surpassed our hopes and expectations. The open and constructive discussions we had with all the officials helped to clarify our thoughts and conclusions.

Bob Peters and Charlie Lester of the Cabinet Secretariat were particularly helpful in planning schedules and arranging meetings between ourselves and the government departments and agencies. Mr. Lester, who accompanied us during all our meetings in St. John's, followed-up our inquiries and provided us with much invaluable information.

To all who have contributed to our work, our deepest thanks.

Gerald Burton
William Dixon
Larry McKay
Jonas Sacrey
Gerald Saunders
Father William Matthews,
Secretary
Mike Parry, Chairman

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CHAPTER I

THE PROBLEM

I INTRODUCTION

On August 13, 1981, Advocate Mines Limited announced that its operation in Baie Verte was to close immediately. Due to the intervention of the Provincial Government the operation was continued on a reduced scale until December 31, 1981, when it closed down completely.

In October 1981 Consolidated Rambler Mines Ltd., announced that its enterprise at Baie Verte would operate on a month-to-month basis effective November 27, 1981. On April 30, 1982, the operation closed down pending an improvement in the world price of copper.

In October 1981 a group of concerned citizens, comprising William Dixon, Mayor of Baie Verte; James Quick, President of the Baie Verte Peninsula Chamber of Commerce; Martin Saunders, President of Local 7713 of the United Steel Workers of America; and Tom Rideout, the local Member of the House of Assembly, recommended to the Premier of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador that a government appointed task force be struck to examine the economic potential of the Baie Verte Peninsula. The Premier agreed and through the Resource Policy Committee

of Cabinet the Baie Verte Peninsula Task Force was appointed. It held its first meeting in Baie Verte on October 20, 1981.

The members of the Task Force were appointed to give as broad a representation of the Peninsula and the interested agencies as possible, bearing in mind the inconveniences of travel and the efficacy of numbers. Appointed were: William Dixon, Mayor of Baie Verte; James Quick, President of the Baie Verte Peninsula Chamber of Commerce; Martin Saunders, President of Local 7713 of the United Steel Workers of America; Jonas Sacrey, President of Local 7190 of the United Steel Workers of America; Larry McKay, representing the staff employees of Advocate Mines Limited; Gerald Saunders, representing the staff employees of Consolidated Rambler Mines Limited; and Gerald Burton, a teacher with a strong background in resource development. Father William Matthews was appointed secretary to the Task Force and Mike Parry, an educator, was appointed chairman. Jonas Sacrey is a resident of Woodstock, Larry McKay a resident of Seal Cove, and Gerald Burton a resident of La Scie. The other members reside in Baie Verte. Tom Rideout, M.H.A., served as an ex-officio member of the Task Force. On June 30, 1982, Martin Saunders resigned his position on the Task Force.

The Task Force was "empowered to look at any and all economic opportunities for future development of the Baie Verte Peninsula". All the resources of the Provincial Government, through the various departments and agencies, were placed at the disposal of the Task Force. The Task Force viewed its primary role to be one of research into the potential of the Peninsula.

It also determined that it had a role in encouraging development and to act as an advocate for ...t development through its recommendations.

II THE BAIE VERTE PENINSULA

1. Topography

The Baie Verte Peninsula can be described as all points north of an imaginary line between Middle Arm in the east and Purbeck's Cove in the west (Figure I), for a total area of about 900 square miles. There are 21 populated communities on the Peninsula.

2. Population

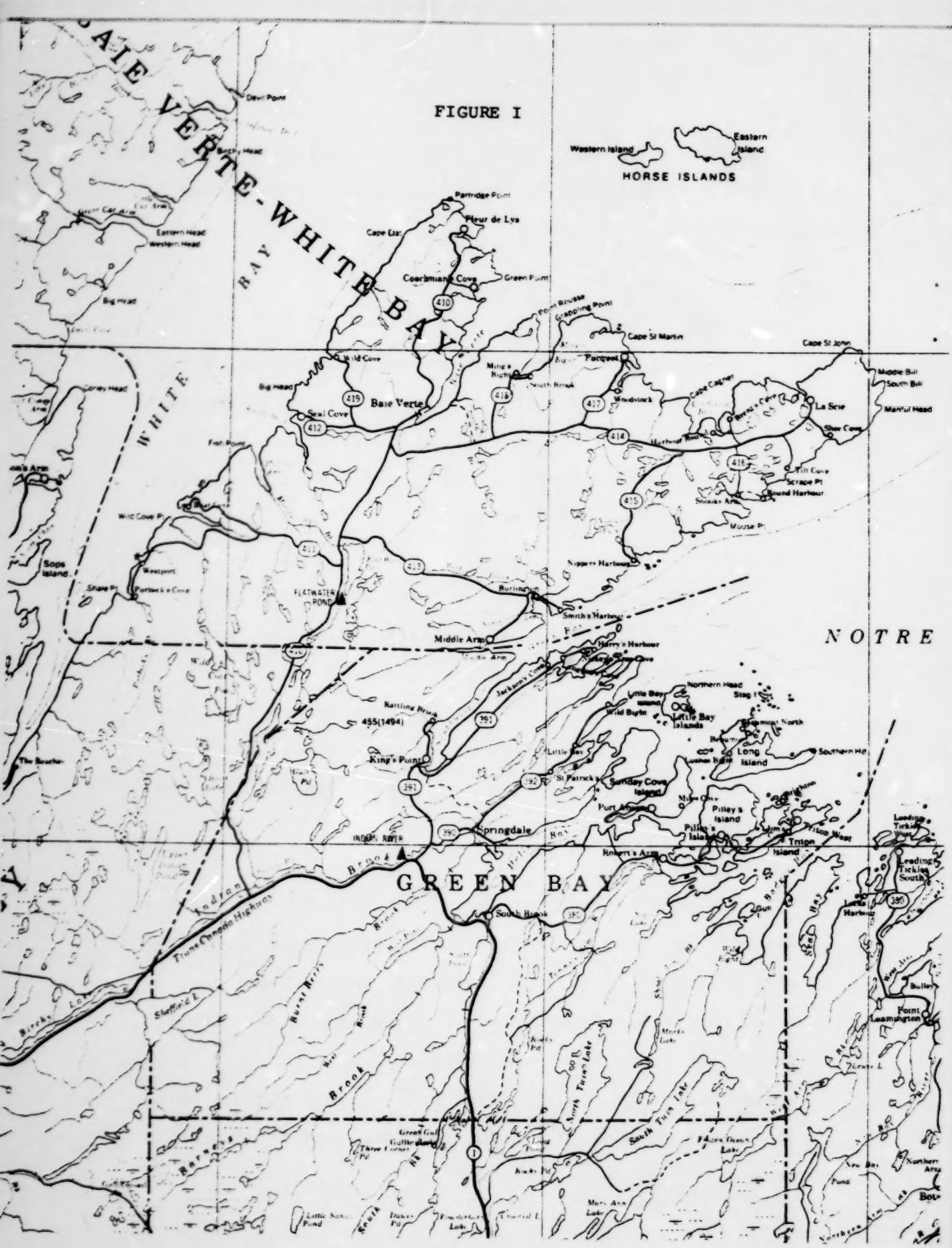
The 1976 Census records a total population on the Peninsula of 9,907 persons. In 1979, 3,180 people filed personal income tax returns.

The 1976 Census shows that Baie Verte was the largest community with a population of 2,528. La Scie had a population of 1,256. All other communities had less than 800 residents.

3. Employment

The most recent statistics available to indicate the economic activity within the region as a whole are in the 1971 Census of Canada. At that time the resident labour force was primarily occupied in the mining (33%), service (16%), and trade (11%) industries. Within the town of Baie Verte itself the figures were comparatively higher, being 43 percent mining, 20 percent services, and 14 percent trade.

FIGURE I


BAIE VERTE-WHITE BAY
BAY
WHITE
HORSE ISLANDS
Western Island
Eastern Island
Partridge Point
Fleur de Lys
Cape Ray
Green Point
Point Rousse
Grappling Point
Cape St Martin
Cape St John
Middle Bill
South Bill
Mantul Head
Packard
Windstock
La Scie
Shoe Cove
Tilt Cove
Scrape Pt
Round Harbour
Moose Pt
Nippers Harbour
Baie Verte
Seal Cove
Big Head
Corney Head
Fair Point
Wild Cove Pt
Westport
Shoe Pt
Sops Island
FLATWATER POND
Burlington
Smith's Harbour
Middle Arm
Harry's Harbour
NOTRE
Northern Head
Stag I
Little Bay Islands
Long Island
Southern Hd
Rattling Brook
455(1494)
King's Point
St Patrick's
Sunday Cove Island
Pilley's Island
Pilley's Islands
Triton Island
Springdale
INDIAN RIVER
Robert's Arm
GREEN BAY
Leading Tickles South
Point Leamington
Trans Canada Highway
South Brook
Sheffield L
Burnt Berry Brook
Birchy L
Great Gull
Gull Pd
Three Corner Pd
Little Sandy Pond
Sandy Pond
Indian Pd
Knobby Pd
Mary Ann Lake
South Twin Lake
Long Pond
Northern Arm
Bou

Advocate Mines Limited and Consolidated Rambler Mines Limited employed 836 people in 1979. Figures made available to the Task Force in November 1981, after some layoffs had occured at Rambler Mines, show that the work force is drawn from many communities. (Figure II)

The closure of the two mines in Baie Verte has resulted in over 800 people becoming unemployed. The loss of these jobs will probably result in the eventual elimination of some 490 services jobs for a total loss of over 1,300 jobs.[1]

4. Income

Personal income tax returns for 1979 indicate a total earned income of $42,643,000.00 on the Baie Verte Peninsula. In 1980 the income paid by the two mines in Baie Verte totalled approximately $15,900,000.00. In 1979, 3,180 people filed personal income tax returns so that the average income for the region was $13,409.00. If 1,300 jobs are in danger of elimination due to the closure of the mines and related service occupations, the total loss to the region could be as high as $17,000,000.00.

5. Roads

In 1971-72 Highway 410 linking Baie Verte with the Trans Canada Highway was paved. In 1975-76 Highway 414 from Baie Verte to La Scie was paved. As a result of the recommendations of the Selikoff Report into asbestos related hazards, Highway 410 was paved from Baie Verte to Fleur de Lys

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[1] Impact of Mine Closures at Baie Verte, Paper prepared for Provincial Government, 1981, p.4

FIGURE II

Employees at Advocate Mines
and
Consolidated Rambler Mines
by Communities

Community	Advocate Mines	Rambler Mines	Total
Baie Verte	338	40	378
Fleur de Lys	50	--	50
Coachman's Cove	36	--	36
Seal Cove	91	1	92
Woodstock/Pacquet	37	62	99
Westport	13	1	14
Wild Cove	9	5	14
Burlington	19	--	19
Ming's Bight	20	32	52
Middle Arm	4	1	5
Brent's Cove	--	4	4
Harbour Round	--	2	2
La Scie	--	28	28
Shoe Cove	--	2	2
Smith's Harbour	--	1	1
Tilt Cove	--	2	2
Springdale	4	--	4
Corner Brook	1	--	1
Robert's Arm	1	--	1
Total	623	181	804

and Coachman's Cove, and Highway 412 from Baie Verte to Seal Cove in 1980. All other roads on the Baie Verte Peninsula are dirt roads.

Some of these unpaved roads are in a deplorable condition. The worst roads are Highway 411 and 413 to Westport and Burlington, respectively. Work is presently being done to upgrade both these roads.

Because the condition of the roads has implications for so many industries, especially fishery, forestry, and tourism, nothing less than upgrading is imperative. Reference is made to this necessity in the relevant chapters. Suffice to say that fish is damaged, trucks cannot get to available timber or destroy existing roads because of poor road services, and tourists stay away.

Since the conditions of the roads are all-encompassing, we recommend:

RECOMMENDATION 1:1

> That the road network on the Baie Verte Peninsula be upgraded immediately and paving be laid over a planned period of time.

III THE RESEARCH DESIGN

The methodology used by the Task Force was that generally followed in the documentary analysis type of descriptive research, namely, gathering of data, analysis of data, and interpretation of findings.

1. Gathering of Data

The Task Force held 15 public meetings in 15 different communities on the Baie Verte Peninsula. Input was

encouraged from the residents.

The Task Force also met with the independent sawmill operators, the executive of the Baie Verte Peninsula Economic Development Association, and various concerned and interested individuals. Some of these meetings were at the request of the Task Force; others at the request of the individuals.

In meetings in Baie Verte and St. John's, the Task Force met with representatives of nine provincial departments or agencies of government. In the majority of cases either the deputy minister and/or an assistant deputy minister were in attendance. The Task Force also met with representatives of the Federal Department of Fisheries and with William Rompkey, M.P. A meeting was also held with Atlantic Hospitality Services to review the tourist potential on the Peninsula.

Detailed minutes were kept of all meetings.

In addition to meetings, the Task Force has corresponded with a variety of groups and individuals.

Without exception the co-operation, honesty, and courtesy shown to the Task Force were outstanding. We offer our sincere thanks and appreciation to all.

2. Analysis of Data

When the data were collected they were analyzed in a number of meetings of the Task Force. The data were divided into seven main sections which form Chapters II to VIII of this Report.

3. Interpretation of Findings

Each chapter in this Report contains a number of recommendations which appear to the Task Force to be logical conclusions to their research.

IV ASSUMPTIONS

The assumptions underlying this study were:

1. The Government of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador is genuinely concerned about the future of the Baie Verte Peninsula;
2. There is potential for growth in various segments of the economy;
3. If the potential can be determined, the Provincial Government will do all in its power to assist in its development;
4. Since a Federal/Provincial Task Force has been appointed to examine the short and long term security of one-industry towns, the Federal Government will do all in its power to assist the Baie Verte Peninsula.

It is not and never has been an assumption of the Baie Verte Peninsula Task Force that it will be able to find alternative employment or industries to overcome, in total, the devastating affects of the closure of Advocate and Consolidated Rambler Mines.

V DELIMITATIONS

Although some of the findings and recommendations of the Task Force have general implications, this Report is delimited to the Baie Verte Peninsula.

The recommendations are determined as a result of the input received. The financial implications of their application have not been considered.

VI LIMITATIONS

Three of the members of the Task Force are educators; one is a clergyman; one is a businessman; four are employees in the mining industry. None of the members has expertise in any of the topics researched with the possible exception of education. The Task Force, therefore, has had to strive to distinguish between the subjective and objective input of its informants and the possible biases of individuals. It is believed that this report is as objective as human nature will allow.

The Task Force has completed its work to date in eight months. If more time had been utilized, this Report would undoubtedly have been more detailed.

CHAPTER II

THE FISHERY

I INTRODUCTION

The abundance of fish discovered off the shores of Newfoundland by early European explorers, resulted in the establishment of permanent settlements of fishermen and their families in small communities around the shores of Newfoundland. The prosecution of the fishery was the life-blood not only of these early settlers and their descendants but also of Newfoundland itself. The Baie Verte Peninsula was part of this development. C. Grant Head in his book, Eighteenth Century Newfoundland,[1] shows that in the mid-seventeenth century, there were nearly 700 fishermen operating between Fleur de Lys and Cape St. John. The communities on the Baie Verte Peninsula, therefore, were settled by fishermen. Although other industries, notably mining and forestry, have contributed considerably to the growth of the Peninsula and have offered alternative employment to many, the fishery has always been of major importance to the inhabitants of the Peninsula.

Shorter working hours and a better income, with greater

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[1] C. Grant Head, Eighteenth Century Newfoundland (Toronto: McClelland and Stewart Limited, 1976), p.12

stability, induced many fishermen to enter the work force at the two mines in Baie Verte. Some of these men still fish part-time and, together with other former fishermen, still have their 'gear' and are prepared to return to the fishery if and when their employment at the mines ends. Approximately 1,500 people are presently employed, directly or indirectly, full time and part-time, in the fishery.

There are fishermen in all the communities on the Baie Verte Peninsula, although the degree of the operation varies. The fishery is prosecuted vigorously in some communities, such as La Scie, Fleur de Lys, Nipper's Harbour, and Wild Cove, while in others, such as Baie Verte and Burlington, the participation is negligible. The variance can be explained by the tradition of the community, the availability of fishing licences, the availability of alternative employment in the mining or forestry industries, and the accessibility to fish plants.

The importance of the fishery, therefore, cannot be understated.

II THE PURPOSE

The Task Force, as a result of its deliberations with fishermen on the Baie Verte Peninsula, with plant managers and operators, and with officials of both the Federal and Provincial Departments of Fishery, has reached certain conclusions regarding the present and the desirable state of the industry. The Task Force realizes that an all-encompassing study is presently being conducted by Michael Kirby on behalf of the

Federal Government. It is hoped that there will be some agreement between this and his report. At the same time, it must be emphasized that our task was to view the needs of the Baie Verte Peninsula only. Our recommendations, therefore, are addressed to the local situation, although there are, of necessity, some implications of a wider nature.

The purpose of this chapter is twofold. First, we have examined what presently exists. To this end we present recommendations that we believe can maximize the existing industry. Secondly, we believe that more can be done. We, therefore, offer recommendations that can develop new processes.

The recommendations are not distinguished or separated to meet these purposes, but are presented within the umbrella of each relevant section of the chapter. The overall purpose is to suggest means whereby the economic base of the Peninsula can be strengthened.

III FISH PLANTS

1. La Scie

The largest fish plant on the Peninsula is in La Scie. It is owned by National Sea Products Limited. The processing area of the plant is approximately 55,000 square feet. In 1981 the plant operated for a total of 154 working days and purchased in excess of 16,000,000 pounds of fish. Nearly 40 percent of this was taken over the wharf in La Scie, the balance being purchased from 12 communities on the Peninsula and transported to the La Scie plant, iced, in

insulated containers. Nineteen eighty-one was not a particularly good year. The manager of the plant reports that when all variables are favourable, including weather, the fish catch and marketing conditions, the plant can produce up to 25,000,000 pounds of finished product. In a good year, the plant could operate for nine months.

In 1981 there were 665 employees on the books of the Company. The busiest week of the year saw 475 being employed. During the year, 743 fishermen were paid. They operated in 316 small boats and 28 longliners. The total payroll of the plant in 1981, including payment to employees, fishermen and its agents in the various communities, was $5,163,000.00.

Since approximately 60 percent of the fish processed in the plant is transported by truck, the conditions of the roads on the Peninsula are relevant. A recommendation has already been made in this regard, but it must be emphasized that bad roads cause damage to the fish. The more it is shaken, the softer it becomes, and the possibility of the quality being downgraded is increased. Poor road conditions also contribute to the high cost of vehicle maintenance. Suffice it to quote from the manager of the La Scie plant:

> "One of the biggest problems confronting our operation is the transportation of fish from the smaller communities ... It is high time our government recognized the problem we are experiencing in trying to operate a fish collecting system over these roads, and took some positive effort to correct it."

Within the fishing industry National Sea Products Limited owns the largest operation on the Baie Verte Peninsula.

As such it is essential, in the opinion of the Task Force, that the plant be maximized to its fullest potential. This is not being done.

The plant is licenced to process crab. In 1981, although it operated its crab section for 103 days between July 12 and October 22, it only worked this part of its operation for 36 days because of the shortage of crab. The fishermen on the Baie Verte Peninsula are adamant that there is an abundance of crab off the shores of the Peninsula around the Horse Islands extending northwards to Grey Islands. Not one fisherman on the Peninsula, however, is licenced to fish for crab. The Federal Department of Fisheries indicates that there are sufficient licences issued to fishermen for the quantity of stock available at the crab beds. But, these licences are issued to fishermen in Little Bay Islands and Jackson's Arm, distances of over 100 miles, by road, on one side of La Scie and close to 150 miles on the other. The only crab that is brought into La Scie is surplus to the licenced fishermen.

Since the plant in La Scie is capable of handling 25,000 pounds of crab per day on an eight hour shift, which would entail the employment of an additional 25 people per shift, and since it is capable of operating two shifts, it appears to be imperative that crab licences be issued to fishermen who sell to the La Scie plant. There are presently 11 fishermen in Green Bay licenced to fish for crab. Nearly all the crab taken off the shores of the

Peninsula is processed in plants outside the Peninsula.

This procedure appears to the Task Force to be unjust and inequitable. Overtures to the licencing board have met with little support. Bureaucratic red tape and unrealistic regulations appear to be a bar to meeting the needs of the La Scie plant and its fishermen. We think it should also be determined whether any of the crab licences presently issued are lying dormant.

RECOMMENDATION 2:1

> That a review be made of the present procedure for the issuing of crab licences bearing in mind the locale of the crab beds and the applicants, the proximity of processing plants, and the vigour of the prosecution of the crab fishery.

RECOMMENDATION 2:2

> That any crab licence not prosecuted full-time be rescinded.

RECOMMENDATION 2:3

> That four crab licences be issued to fishermen on the Baie Verte Peninsula who will offer their catch to the La Scie plant.

The potential of the La Scie plant in other areas needs to be researched. It would appear to be a major undertaking to expand into packaging, breading, and cooking. We believe that the potential for a cannery is a realistic venture, however, especially if the availability and supply of crab increases.

RECOMMENDATION 2:4

> That in depth research be conducted into the overall potential of the La Scie plant especially in canning and the processing of secondary products and by-products.

2. Wild Cove

A feeder fish plant has been constructed in Wild Cove under a Canada Works Grant with assistance from the Provincial Government. The plant is owned by the community and is leased to and operated by National Sea Products Limited in La Scie.

It accounts for approximately nine percent of the total La Scie operation. The Wild Cove plant employs about 25 people and services 20 fishermen operating out of seven longliners and ten small boats. It has brought employment to every person seeking employment in Wild Cove and also employs several women from outside the community.

Ground fish are filleted in Wild Cove. According to the local manager, research indicates that the yield of the plant is among the highest in Eastern Canada. The filleted fish are transported by truck to La Scie.

The productivity of this plant and the employment opportunities could be increased. The longliner fishery started in Wild Cove around 1970, with one boat. The fleet has now grown to eight. The old wharf in Wild Cove is 23 years old and has deteriorated to such an extent that it is no longer safe to tie up the longliners during poor weather conditions. Wharf facilities are also inadequate to cater to the needs of the fishermen. One of the leading fishermen in the community, because of the lack of wharf space, has to tie up in Fleur de Lys, 18 nautical miles from Wild Cove and 25 miles by road. The lack of wharf space has also caused him to land his catches at Jackson's

Arm. In the summer of 1981, he landed over a million pounds of fish outside his own community. Although work has been done over the years, repairs to the existing wharf and a suitable extension are essential to maintain and to increase the viability of the plant. The additional landings of fish would increase the labour force in the plant. The uncertain future of the plant in Jackson's Arm, which is operated by Nickerson's Limited, makes this need even more imperative.

RECOMMENDATION 2:5

> That the relevant departments of government immediately make available the requisite funds to upgrade the wharf facilities in Wild Cove.

A problem common to many of the fishing communities on the Baie Verte Peninsula is their distance from La Scie. Fish species that need immediate processing to prevent spoilage, such as squid, or fish that cannot be safely trucked because of their fragile structure, such as mackerel, are unacceptable to the plant if transported over any distance. An abundance of these species can be landed at Wild Cove, however. If they could be frozen prior to transporting to La Scie, spoilage and damage would be eliminated. The feeder plant at Wild Cove has proven to be a well-managed and viable operation. If it could cater to the needs of the fishermen who land squid and mackerel it could probably operate on a two-shift system, giving additional employment to both worker and fisherman. Before this venture can be undertaken, the plant would need some improvements to equip it for the freezing process.

RECOMMENDATION 2:6

That three phase power be brought into Wild Cove.

RECOMMENDATION 2:7

That blast freezers and ice-making equipment be installed at the plant in Wild Cove.

The duration of the annual operation of the plant in Wild Cove is governed by the operation of the main plant in La Scie. When the La Scie plant closes, the Wild Cove plant automatically shuts down. In 1981, it was not open long enough for the employees to qualify for their Unemployment Insurance. The fishing season in the community of Wild Cove continued for some considerable time after the closure of the plant with the fishermen selling their catches to the plant in Jackson's Arm. The Task Force realizes that it cannot control weather or market conditions to enable the plant in La Scie to extend its operating year. We are concerned, however, that the Wild Cove operation has to close when fish is still plentiful and would suggest, without any specific recommendation, that alternatives be examined by National Sea Products Limited.

3. Middle Arm

A small independent plant, Mermaid Fisheries Limited, operates at Middle Arm. The building is about 4,000 square feet. The plant processes herring, caplin, and squid, which it freezes and exports, mainly to Japan. During the caplin season it employs between 50 and 60 people, but its normal work force is about half that number. The plant generates

approximately $500,000.00 worth of business per year.

Despite many applications, the plant is unable to obtain a licence for processing ground fish, which presently goes to National Sea Products Limited in La Scie. The owner believes that his application is being blocked by National Sea. If he could process ground fish he could maintain a constant work force of 60 people. His entrepreneurial efforts make it very tempting to recommend the awarding of a ground fish processing licence. The Task Force is not sure, however, whether the Peninsula can tolerate an increase in processing licences for plants. Recommendation 2:11, which follows, addresses this question.

4. Pacquet, Seal Cove and Westport

Nickerson's Limited, who operates a plant in Jackson's Arm, the future of which is uncertain, have holding facilities in Pacquet and Seal Cove.

Fishermen from Woodstock deliver their fish to Pacquet. An agent of Nickerson's determines what fish is to be bought. This is filleted in the plant, which is a converted community stage, and then shipped to Jackson's Arm. There are no freezing facilities.

Seal Cove has a similar holding plant on its community stage. The wharf facilities are so inadequate, however, that the filleting, which used to take place at Seal Cove and employ about 15 people, has been discontinued. The fishermen now take their catch directly to Jackson's Arm.

Westport also sells its fish directly to Jackson's

Arm, about an hour's journey away by sea. Westport has no freezing facilities.

Since fishermen from Pacquet, Seal Cove, Westport, and some from Wild Cove, sell their fish to Jackson's Arm, and indications are that that plant might close, the following recommendation is made:

RECOMMENDATION 2:8

> That alternative processing facilities be determined immediately in the event that the plant at Jackson's Arm ceases operation.

5. Fleur de Lys

Quinlan Brothers presently own a partially completed plant in Fleur de Lys. They are prepared to complete this plant if suitable financial assistance is available, or to enter into partnership with another company, or to sell the plant in its present condition. The plant is ideally situated on the waterfront with a floor space of 16,300 square feet. There is a second storey covering approximately two-thirds of the ground floor. The plant is licenced to process all fish normally landed on the Peninsula. This licence is transferable.

This plant can contribute considerably to the economic base of the Peninsula. It is estimated that the processing of crab alone could create employment for up to 250 people over two shifts. The potential for other species is considerable. As an example, much of the thousands of pounds of squid presently wasted because of the distance of communities from La Scie, could be profitably processed.

Fleur de Lys is a comparatively ice-free port where the fishing industry could be prosecuted much later in the year than at present. The Task Force believes that this venture is the most viable and potentially productive encountered in its research. Accordingly, we recommend:

RECOMMENDATION 2:9

> That governments recognize the potential of the fish plant at Fleur de Lys and give every assistance and encouragement to secure its immediate completion and opening.

Many attempts have been made by the Task Force and other interested parties to achieve the successful completion and opening of the plant. One very interested buyer has been found who has acquired a secured market for the crab product. Unfortunately, but understandably, he is unwilling to pursue the venture until he can be assured of an adequate supply of crab. Residents at Fleur de Lys have investigated the feasibility of taking over the plant as a co-operative venture.

Our comments on the crab industry at La Scie apply to the situation at Fleur de Lys. We have been frustrated in our attempts to obtain crab licences for the fishermen on the Baie Verte Peninsula. Representatives from Fisheries and Oceans have indicated that their scientific research suggests the immediate availability of an additional 500,000 pounds of crab in the vicinity of the Horse Islands. So many fishermen have applied for crab licences, that if additional licences were awarded, the names could be drawn by

lottery. This means that chance could determine that none of the additional licences be awarded to fishermen on the Baie Verte Peninsula. The only prerequisite, to be eligible for a licence, is that the applicant meet government requirements with regard to boat and gear and be able to fish in the allocated area. It is our contention that, since the economic future of so many people on the Peninsula will depend on the successful prosecution of the crab industry, the licences should be issued to local fishermen. Any other approach by the Federal Government will be indicative of insensitivity to local needs. There is a strong indication that the availability of crab exceeds the figure quoted by Fisheries and Oceans and that there is sufficient to make the crab operation at both La Scie and Fleur de Lys viable. We are aware of at least nine fishermen from the immediate vicinity of Fleur de Lys who have applied for crab licences.

RECOMMENDATION 2:10

> Notwithstanding Recommendation 2:3, that no less than four crab licences be issued to fishermen on the Baie Verte Peninsula who will offer their catch to the Fleur de Lys plant.

6. Future Plants

The attempts of the owner of Mermaid Fisheries Limited at Middle Arm to obtain a licence to process ground fish have already been mentioned. During its visits around the Baie Verte Peninsula, the Task Force encountered many requests to support the efforts of the communities to obtain their own fish plants or feeder plants. We are uncertain

whether the Peninsula can tolerate any further increase. If new ventures can only be viable at the expense of existing operations then the overall gain appears minimal. A well-run feeder plant, such as the one at Wild Cove, can be profitable. This appears to be the exception. We have been advised that the concept of feeder plants has proven a financial millstone in most cases in that, not only is their survival questionable, but also they can drain the resources of the main operation.

Very serious attempts have been made to install a feeder plant at Nipper's Harbour which could offer employment to between 30 and 40 people per shift. Nipper's Harbour appears to the Task Force to have potential and the viability of such a plant needs investigating.

Westport is nearly two hours by road from La Scie. If Jackson's Arm were to close, a freezing plant appears a reasonable proposition for Westport.

Although the Task Force is sympathetic to these and all the other requests, we believe that any firm recommendation would be beyond our area of competence. We, therefore, recommend:

RECOMMENDATION 2:11

> That the Provincial Department of Fisheries research the viability of additional fish plants or feeder plants on the Baie Verte Peninsula and make their findings known to each community.

IV WHARVES

A safe harbour for his boat and a suitable wharf on which to

land his catch are essential for any fisherman. The importance of these facilities has already been referred to in the sections on Wild Cove and Seal Cove where the consequences of inadequate facilities were illustrated.

A few communities on the Peninsula need their wharves upgraded and/or expanded. Some have adequate facilities due to government grants or local initiative. Since the Task Force believes that all those who make their living from the sea deserve suitable facilities, and since it is beyond the expertise of the Task Force to determine the suitability of wharves, the following recommendation is made:

RECOMMENDATION 2:12

> That the Federal Government assume its full responsibility for the upgrading and maintenance of wharves and landing stages.

V LICENCES

The Task Force's dissatisfaction with the procedure for the awarding of crab licences has already been referred to in some detail. Considerable frustration has been expressed by many people on the Peninsula regarding the licencing regulations in general. Typical of the complaints was that from one community where it was felt that their fishery, once vibrant, is rapidly becoming a dying art due to the classification of full-time and part-time fishermen. One resident, at his own expense, built a 42 foot longliner, fished for one season and then suddenly was classified as part-time.

Many of the miners employed at Advocate Mines and at

Rambler Consolidated Mines are former fishermen. Some still fish part-time. Many still own their boats and gear. If the mines close, fishing is the only profession these men know. Approaches have been made to the Federal Government requesting special consideration for these individuals, but, once again, the Task Force has encountered red tape bureaucracy. Despite this frustration, we recommend:

RECOMMENDATION 2:13

> That special consideration be given to former and/or part-time fishermen who lose their jobs due to any closure in the mining industry on the Baie Verte Peninsula so that they can be awarded fishing licences to enable them to pursue a livelihood.

VI VARIOUS PRODUCTS

Many species of fish are caught in the waters off the Baie Verte Peninsula. It is necessary to comment on some of these.

1. Lobster

Traditionally, the lobster fishery has not been greatly prosecuted in the White Bay area, not because of the shortage of lobster but because of weather and market conditions. Now that more fishermen wish to fish for lobster they are frustrated by regulations. They feel that when the government discovered that some bays in the province were over-licenced they placed a moratorium on all licences, regardless of the number in a particular bay. At that time, very few licences existed in White Bay although it was fished fairly extensively by fishermen from Green Bay. During the last few years approximately 12 licences have been awarded

to fishermen in White Bay on an experimental basis only. It is maintained by the fishermen of White Bay that the area could handle many more licences, and a considerably greater number if the licences were limited to local fishermen.

RECOMMENDATION 2:14

That a full evaluation be made of the lobster potential in White Bay and that all new licences be awarded on an equitable basis to fishermen residing in White Bay.

RECOMMENDATION 2:15

That any lobster licence not prosecuted full-time be rescinded.

2. Squid

Squid is plentiful around the coast of the Baie Verte Peninsula. Squid, however, is very fragile and needs to be processed within three hours of being caught. The distance from the plant at La Scie causes all squid caught south of Shoe Cove to be too distant. Since considerable wastage can occur and since the weather on the Peninsula usually prohibits natural drying, a few alternatives are suggested.

The adoption of Recommendation 2:7 would enable squid to be frozen at the Wild Cove plant. This could cater to the needs of the fishermen in Wild Cove, Seal Cove and Baie Verte.

The adoption of Recommendation 2:9 would enable squid to be processed at the Fleur de Lys plant, which would cater to the needs of the fishermen in Fleur de Lys, Coachman's Cove and Baie Verte.

Fishermen in Westport and the majority of the communities

on the Baie Verte Peninsula would still be too distant from any plant. The community of Ming's Bight, for example, has an abundance of squid which cannot be processed. Recommendation 2:8 could result in the successful processing of the squid caught in Westport, while Recommendation 2:11 could lead to the opening of a freezing unit somewhere between Baie Verte and La Scie. Recognizing that neither of the recommendations might materialize and believing the squid potential too great to lose, the Task Force would encourage greater research into the development of artificial dryers. Two of these conveniently located, one in Westport and one in the centre of the Peninsula, could do much to enhance the industry. The Task Force has already received detailed plans for the development of a solar fish dryer. These have been forwarded to the Provincial Government for examination. Any form of dryer, of course, can be used for a variety of products.

RECOMMENDATION 2:16

> That artificial dryers for the fishery be installed, if necessary as a pilot project, in selected communities on the Baie Verte Peninsula.

RECOMMENDATION 2:17

> That a prototype for a solar dryer be developed and tried on the Baie Verte Peninsula.

3. Cod

The Task Force is concerned about the comparatively short fishing season, especially when viewing the operation of the La Scie plant. We realize that once the plant closes,

nearly 700 employees, by becoming eligible for Unemployment Insurance, become a charge on the government, while receiving a diminished income. It is our wish to extend the operating life of the plant as much as possible.

If National Sea Products Limited is able to broaden its operation to include a cannery, this part of the operation could possibly be managed during the winter months.

A major consideration is the offshore fishery. At the moment small boats and longliners feed the fish plants. We believe that every encouragement should be given to the offshore operators to deliver part of their catch on the Baie Verte Peninsula, or, if necessary, for our own offshore fleet to be developed.

The Task Force understands that 10,000,000 pounds of northern cod can be set aside for processing in existing fish plants. If prosecuted vigorously, in a scientific manner, it appears that this allocation could double. Possibly factory freezer ships could form part of the fleet. We believe that the La Scie plant and, when developed, the Fleur de Lys plant must benefit from this venture.

RECOMMENDATION 2:18

> That a consortium of offshore operators be formed to supply fish to plants during the winter months so that the annual operation of these plants be extended.

There appears to be an increasing potential for stockfish. This is beheaded and gutted cod that is hung by the tail on a V-shaped frame to dry naturally in the

winter months over a period of eight to 12 weeks. This process, popular in Norway and Iceland, is ideally done in temperatures between 0^{o} and $5^{o}C$, but in some markets, especially Nigeria, fish damaged by freezing can still be classified as top quality. Present demand in Nigeria is estimated at 900,000 tonnes annually, which could reach as high as 2,000,000 tonnes by the year 2000. At present, available supplies fall short of the Nigerian demand by between 100,000 and 200,000 tonnes per year. Although this process is normally done outdoors, artificial drying using modern heat-pump dryers appears feasible.

The Provincial Minister of Fisheries indicated on February 12, 1982, that his Department is optimistic about the future potential for stockfish production. Pilot projects are already being conducted in the province. The Task Force views this as a potential industry on either an individual or a community basis.

RECOMMENDATION 2:19

> That the production process for stockfish be extended into the Baie Verte Peninsula with the necessary in-service being made available by the Provincial Government.

4. Seal

Research suggests that approximately 20,000 pelts were shipped from the Peninsula to the plant at Dildo in 1981. The total seal harvest on the Peninsula has not been determined. It is very evident, however, that the bulk of the seal meat is dumped.

The Task Force considers this wastage to be most unfortunate. On the one hand it does nothing to diminish the arguments of the anti-sealers; on the other hand, it is a waste of potential industry. Research is being conducted by the Provincial Department of Fisheries into various methods of production, including tinned seal stew. The potential market, however, appears to be localized with little effort made to break into the international market. One private operator is canning seal meat.

Fleur de Lys is one of the main ports from which the land based sealer operates in the province. It is believed that if a viable market is found, then Fleur de Lys is an obvious base for an industry.

RECOMMENDATION 2:20

> That research into the production of seal meat be vigorously pursued and that a high powered salesman be engaged by the Provincial Government to establish an international market.

RECOMMENDATION 2:21

> That in the event that a successful market for seal meat must be found, production be encouraged in Fleur de Lys or in a neighbouring community.

Fresh seal is available to residents of the province for a limited period of time each year. A number of suggestions have been put to the Task Force to the effect that it should be available throughout the year. The majority of seal carcasses are dumped despite the high protein value of the meat. It would appear to the Task Force that a beneficial venture would be the establishment of a seal

holding plant where the meat would be frozen and sold to individuals or store operators as demand so warrants. The operation could, in fact, serve as a wholesale distributor for the province. It would enhance the earning potential of the seal fisherman and eliminate unnecessary wastage.

RECOMMENDATION 2:22

> That a seal holding plant or operation be established on the Baie Verte Peninsula, preferably at Fleur de Lys.

5. Herring and Mackerel

The herring fishery over the years has been very successful. Many complaints were received by the Task Force regarding the difficulty of obtaining licences and of the quota system. In Wild Cove, where herring was fished for many years, only one licence now exists for fixed gear. In Woodstock the feelings of other communities were summed up by the suggestion that the limited quota was a result of a political decision to cater to the wishes of fishermen in a more southern bay of the province.

The potential supply of herring and mackerel suggests the development of an industry to smoke-dry the fish. The Task Force recognizes that this is a specialized industry and that competent 'smokers' are hard to find. Indeed, it is probable that, should such an industry be developed to any reasonable scale, a professional 'smoker' would have to be brought in from Scandinavia. The market has great potential, however. Smoked salmon is currently fetching $50.00 to $60.00 per pound.

RECOMMENDATION 2:23

That the potential for smoke-drying various species of fish be explored.

VII SUPPORT SERVICES

Fishermen need servicing facilities for their boats. Occasionally, they need to purchase new boats. With approximately 400 boats operating on the Baie Verte Peninsula, service facilities are essential at the local level.

1. Lift

A travel lift provides service in La Scie. This is not powerful enough for boats over 53 feet in length. These have to sail to Lewisporte for servicing. La Scie Harbour is often closed in winter due to the prevailing winter winds that block the Harbour with ice.

The comparatively ice-free port of Fleur de Lys, where many of the longliners presently tie up for the winter, would be an ideal location for a suitable lift.

RECOMMENDATION 2:24

That a 100-ton travel lift be installed in Fleur de Lys.

2. Machine Shop

Prior to the closing of the mines in Baie Verte, most servicing required by fishermen was carried out, free of charge, in the shops at the mines. The District Vocational School in Baie Verte also assists in meeting the demand. Fishermen, in every community, indicated to the Task Force the need for an independent machine shop. They realized

that they would no longer enjoy the benefits of the free service, but, without exception, expressed the desirability of a permanent machine shop which could provide the essential services. A mobile unit would also be desirable.

The Task Force has already arranged for a representative of government to survey the need.

RECOMMENDATION 2:25

That a machine shop be opened on the Baie Verte Peninsula.

3. Boat Building

Many of the fishermen on the Baie Verte Peninsula follow the tradition of their ancestors and build their own boats. Some build for friends and colleagues. A few boat-builders make their living in the trade.

Governmental regulations appear to frustrate the efforts of the professional boatbuilder. Such a craftsman cannot obtain any financial assistance to build for inventory. He cannot, therefore, operate a full-time industry unless he can afford to carry his inventory. This is highly unlikely. He, therefore, can only operate his business when he has a specific order. If he receives a number of orders at the same time, he is in danger of losing some of them to competitors who might be able to meet the demand more quickly than he. This procedure appears to the Task Force to be a negative inducement to the entrepreneur. We believe that every encouragement should be given to keep this industry alive and locally situated.

RECOMMENDATION 2:26

That the Provincial Government, through the Department of Fisheries, co-ordinate the construction of boats by enabling, at least, the construction of hulls for inventory.

VIII CONCLUSION

This chapter contains 26 recommendations. Some of them are directed to the Federal Government, some to the Provincial Government, some to corporations, and some to individual entrepreneurs who might be interested. Different departments, within both levels of government, are involved.

The Task Force has deliberately not suggested how these recommendations can be implemented. It does not see that as part of its role. As a result of its research, it has determined the needs as expressed by various interested parties. From these various needs, it has commented on only those that appear the most viable. Whether they are indeed viable is up to others to determine.

The Task Force recognizes that financial assistance will have to be provided for the successful implementation of a number of the recommendations. If they are deemed viable, that assistance must be forthcoming.

The importance of the fishery to the Baie Verte Peninsula necessitates the most serious consideration of the recommendations and the chapter in its totality.

CHAPTER III

TOURISM

I INTRODUCTION

The economic potential that can be stimulated by a successful tourist industry has been demonstrated in many parts of the world. Tourism is the major base of some of the world's economies. It is a secondary contributor in many others. Its success depends on the skillful exploitation of the natural phenomena of a country or of a region. Many factors contribute to the success of a viable tourist industry including honest promotion, acceptable accommodation, sound transportation, reasonable accessibility, suitable climatic conditions, and efficient and reliable organization.

The Government of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador has demonstrated its realization of the contribution that tourism can make to the development of the province. Indeed, tourism falls under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Department of Development. The province has been divided into five tourist regions, each with its own director. The Baie Verte Peninsula is in Region 3, being Central Newfoundland. A firm of management consultants from Toronto has been engaged to examine "the developmental concepts, issues and commercial opportunities of

the province". Its preliminary report was presented in September 1981. The overall aim of the study as defined by the Department of Development is:

> "The definition of a course of action for tourism marketing and development (a plan for the 1980's) that will allow for maximum contribution to the economic well-being of each of the five tourism regions."[1]

In addition to these developments at the provincial level, the Federal and Provincial Governments have signed a tourism agreement which enables joint Federal/Provincial funding in certain areas.

II THE PURPOSE

The development of a successful tourist industry in the province has been slow. In a regional study of the Baie Verte Peninsula in 1960, the Provincial Planning Office of the Department of Municipal Affairs stated:

> "Little organized tourist development has taken place in the area because a road system is only now being completed. The Peninsula has high scenic value and reports indicate that the fishing and hunting prospects are good ... It is to be expected that with the opening up of the area with roads, the facilities for tourist development will be expanded."[2]

Despite these high hopes of 12 years ago, little has been done to expand the facilities for tourist development. Although the Provincial Government has now taken the initiative, its

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[1] Pannell, Kerr, Forster, Campbell, Sharp, Hunter and Associates, Newfoundland and Labrador, Travel/Tourism Plan. (Toronto 1981).

[2] Baie Verte Peninsula, Regional Study 1960 (St. John's: Provincial Planning Office, Department of Municipal Affairs), p. 22.

concern must, of necessity, be for the total province. The Task Force is concerned with the needs of the Baie Verte Peninsula. As such, the purpose of this chapter is to enunciate proposals that we believe will develop the tourist industry and so enhance the economic base of the Peninsula. We recognize that considerable initiative must be shown at the local level if a local tourist trade is to develop and prosper. A sub-purpose to the chapter, therefore, is to detail the potential in such a way that the local initiative will be stimulated.

III THE POTENTIAL

In their preliminary report to the Provincial Government, Pannell, Kerr et al, indicate that tourism areas generally include three major components, namely, destination areas, service centres, and corridors. They continue by defining these components as follows:

> Destination areas are geographic areas with sufficient attractions and services to provide a total experience for a visitor. As such, the destination usually has a sufficiently broad base of activities and interests to occupy these visitors.
>
> Service centres are necessary or interesting places to visit on the way to destinations. Such centres tend to build tourism volume on the basis of commercial services or small attractions which hold tourist interest for part of a day.
>
> Transportation corridors link attractions and services together and provide routes for visitors to travel. Corridors may be rail, road, air or water routes.[1]

The report continues by sub-dividing destination areas into

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[1] Pannell, Kerr et al., op. cit.

three categories, namely, primary, secondary, and tertiary.

> Primary destination areas are areas which are now or potentially could be of national or international significance. They contain attractions which are unique and of interest to national or international markets. All required services for the visitor are located within the area such as different types of accommodation, restaurants, shopping, etc.
>
> Secondary destination areas offer attractions which are also unique but appeal to a smaller, less diverse market. As a result (sic), these areas contain fewer services and may have a lower quality transportation access. Secondary destination areas often are restrained from development as primary destination areas due to capacity (sic) for expansion, limited market appeal, or environmental restraints.
>
> Tertiary destination areas usually contain only one or two small attractions which may not be competitive with those in other areas or provinces but which in their own right play an important role in providing visitors with places to stop and see along tour corridors. Services available often do not include accommodations but should include at least one restaurant and service station.[1]

Figure III, which is reproduced from the report, illustrates that the authors have classified the towns of Baie Verte and La Scie as "destination areas"; Baie Verte being classified as a secondary destination area and La Scie a tertiary destination area. The Task Force cannot disagree with these classifications but contends that the Baie Verte Peninsula has the potential to offer much that falls within the category of a primary destination area. Before this potential can be realized, much has to be done. First, the potential has to be fully identified; secondly, the identified industry has to be organized; thirdly, it has to be promoted.

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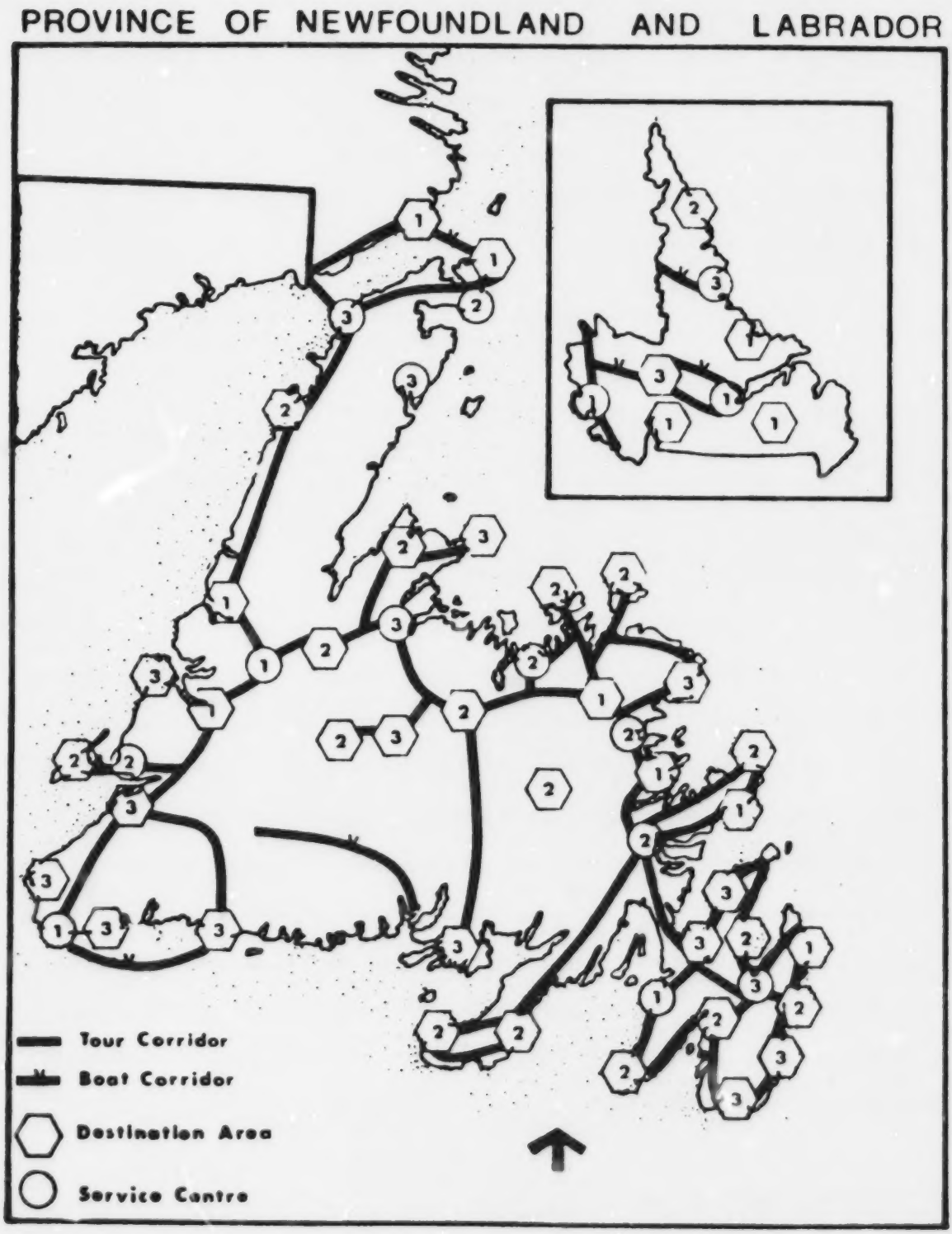
[1] Pannell, Kerr et al., op. cit.

FIGURE III

Tourist Potential



1. Identification

Over the last decade, commercial enterprises and private entrepreneurs, especially along the Trans Canada Highway, have, for the most part, attempted to cater to tourists by offering typical North American fare. The Task Force believes that traditional Newfoundland fare, ably supported by traditional Newfoundland hospitality, can be one of our province's greatest attractions. It is further our contention that in identifying the tourist potential of the Baie Verte Peninsula, emphasis must be placed on the natural attractions already available.

Since every community on the Baie Verte Peninsula is situated on the coast, a variety of marine related activities already exist or can be developed at little financial cost. Boat trips and tours, tuna fishing, cod jigging, squid jigging, whale watching, "cook-ups" in many of the scenic bays and coves, are a few of the identifiable activities. A small crafts marina is being developed in Baie Verte. Similar potential exists in other areas. Hopefully, governmental support will be forthcoming for these ventures, whether new or in need of upgrading.

The Baie Verte Peninsula abounds with ponds and lakes. The attraction for the trout fisherman is obvious. For the adventurous camper who likes to explore on foot or by canoe, there are an abundance of opportunities.

Some of the communities have attractions that are unique to themselves. In Fleur de Lys there are Indian rock

carvings and pot carvings. La Scie also contains petroglyphs attributed to Archaic Indian origins. Baie Verte could offer tours of the mines, while La Scie has an educational and pleasurable tour of the fish plant. The Peninsula is rich in minerals. On the main Baie Verte Highway, for example, the tourist can view a deposit of virginite, believed to be unique and found nowhere else in the world.

During the winter months the Peninsula has an abundance of snow. For the winter visitor the potential is great. A consulting firm, Atlantic Hospitality Consulting, has already visited the Peninsula and reports that a ski resort in Baie Verte appears a viable enterprise. The hills behind the Baie Vista Inn offer a site that can compete very favourably with anything on the Island. During an average year the snow comes earlier to the Peninsula, is heavier and lasts longer than on the west coast. In addition to a ski resort, the natural terrain is ideal for cross-country ski trails.

Despite the natural assets of the Peninsula, there are problems that could hinder a successful tourist industry. The condition of the roads to the smaller communities has already been mentioned. No tourist, travelling in anything except a sturdy vehicle, would be wise to drive over the potholes and dust of these roads. Upgrading of the roads is essential.

There is a general lack of facilities for tourists. Very few of the communities have restaurants and only in the larger communities are there hotel or motels. There is one Provincial

Park at Flatwater Pond which has limited space. The Task Force heard of many occasions when camping trailers were parked on school grounds due to the lack of campground facilities.

There is no craft or tourist shop on the Peninsula. Those who produce local crafts, such as snow-shoes, furniture, blankets, and a variety of bottled foods and knitted items, have to take them to Corner Brook or Grand Falls to find a market.

Atlantic Hospitality Consulting, who advised the Task Force on the feasibility of the ski resort at Baie Verte, toured the whole Peninsula. A report has been prepared indicating how this firm would conduct in-depth analysis of the tourist potential of the Baie Verte Peninsula. Whether this offer is accepted or whether an alternative firm is engaged, the viability of the identified potential must be determined.

RECOMMENDATION 3:1

> That government finance in-depth research by consultants into both the potential and the means of implementing the potential tourist industry on the Baie Verte Peninsula.

2. Organization

As a result of its research, the Task Force is convinced that the Baie Verte Peninsula has much to offer the tourist. Some of the immediate inadequacies have already been identified. We believe that most of these can be corrected by governmental and local initiative, and the whole, if organized, can lead to a viable tourist industry.

For the tourist who likes to camp, the facilities are inadequate. The Provincial Park at Flatwater Pond is usually full each weekend during the summer months. There appears to be sufficient space for this Park to be expanded to create a reasonable number of additional camping lots.

RECOMMENDATION 3:2

That the possibility of expanding Flatwater Pond Provincial Park be investigated.

Even if Flatwater Pond Provincial Park is expanded it is the only park on the Baie Verte Peninsula. It is 25 miles off the Trans Canada Highway. A tourist who arrives at the Park and finds it full has to drive back to the Trans Canada or camp in a gravel pit. Flatwater Pond is over 40 miles from the eastern end of the Peninsula. The Task Force believes that a second and alternative park is needed at the eastern end of the Peninsula. With good communication between the two parks, this second park could cater to the tourist unable to find space at Flatwater Pond Park. It could also serve as the base for the tourist exploring the eastern end of the Peninsula.

RECOMMENDATION 3:3

That a Provincial Park or a privately subsidized park be situated at the eastern end of the Baie Verte Peninsula.

There is a shortage of hotel and motel accommodations on the Peninsula. It was stated earlier in this chapter that traditional Newfoundland hospitality could be one of the province's greatest attractions. We believe that many of the residents of the Baie Verte Peninsula would be able to

offer sound and acceptable hospitality to tourists in their own homes. Not only would the residents supplement their incomes but also they would enhance the potential of the Peninsula. Many tourists seek the local atmosphere. Standards for hospitality homes would have to be set, but we believe that with proper organization, good advertising, and reasonable regulations, a viable industry could be developed offering bed and breakfast accommodation or full board, as required.

Plans are already under way to build a Baie Verte Peninsula Miners' Museum. A Museum Heritage Committee is operative, funded, to help it start its work, by the Baie Verte Town Council. A site has been chosen at the entrance to the Town of Baie Verte. This museum could be expanded to include more of historical value than mining artifacts alone. Since the Baie Verte Peninsula is so rich in mining history, this museum must be supported.

RECOMMENDATION 3:4

> That the Baie Verte Peninsula Miners' Museum be given by government all the financial assistance and encouragement needed to make it a reality.

The site chosen for the museum is spacious and capable of housing a craft shop for the Peninsula. Ideally, the Task Force believes that the museum and the craft shop should be a double facility joined by a covered walkway or passage. The craft shop, if situated in Baie Verte, would be reasonably central and easily accessible to local craftsmen. It would also be easily accessible to tourists and

could serve as a tourist chalet for the Peninsula.

RECOMMENDATION 3:5

That a craft shop be situated in Baie Verte.

If the tourist industry on the Baie Verte Peninsula is to operate as envisaged, it is imperative that it be well organized. This organization must be at the local level. Figure IV , which is reproduced from the report to the Provincial Government of Pannell, Kerr, et al., shows the present division into regions of the province. It has already been mentioned that each region has its own director. The Baie Verte Peninsula is part of Region 3 -- Central Newfoundland. The region is enormous, including such areas as Gander and Grand Falls. It is, in the opinion of the Task Force, too cumbersome an area. Size alone dictates that any one area within the region cannot receive the in-depth attention it might need.

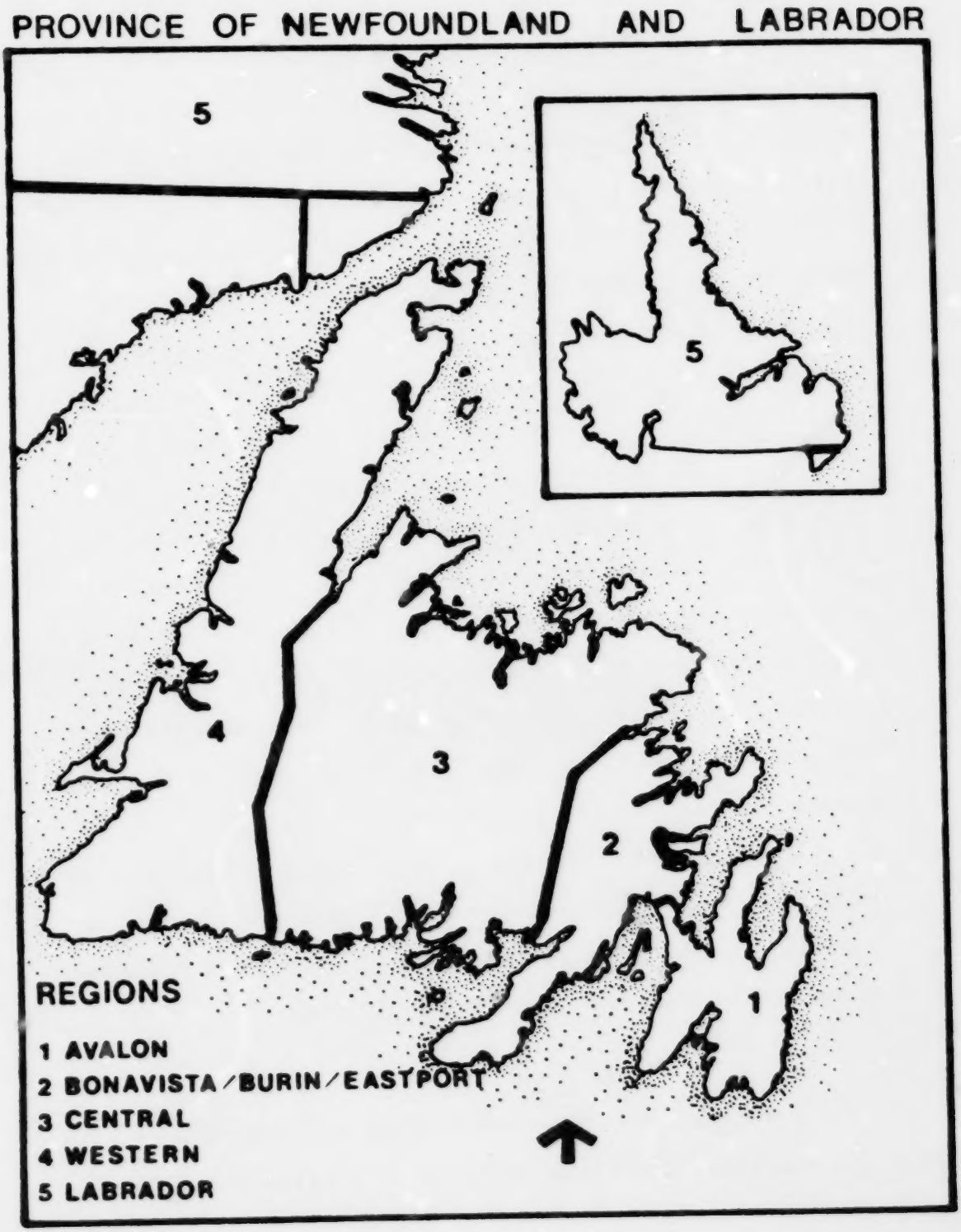
Since the Task Force believes that tourism has great potential for the Baie Verte Peninsula, and since it believes that tourism can do much to strengthen the economic base of the Peninsula, a tourist director must be appointed for the Baie Verte Peninsula alone. This person's task will be to implement the findings of the consultants, to co-ordinate the various activities, to encourage the local input, to manage the industry generally, and to ensure that the area is properly promoted. An experienced person will be needed.

RECOMMENDATION 3:6

That the Baie Verte Peninsula be granted its own

FIGURE IV

Tourist Regions



tourist director.

3. Promotion

The promotion of the tourist industry on the Baie Verte Peninsula must be managed in a skillful and professional manner. It is the assumption of the Task Force that the consultants who investigate the overall potential of the Peninsula will have specific recommendations in this regard. The Provincial Department of Development, through its tourism section, together with the tourist director for the Peninsula, will be responsible for ensuring that the promotion is kept to the forefront and regularly upgraded.

We want tourists to be attracted to the Baie Verte Peninsula. The present policy restricting advertising on the Trans Canada Highway is a hindrance. We believe it should be seriously examined. The limit on the number of place names on a sign post is also detrimental. During its visits to the communities, the Task Force was told, "We had a tourist here last year. He only found his way here because he was lost!"

We do not advocate any gaudy or cheap promotion. We do recognize, however, the absolute necessity of making the Peninsula known and of encouraging visitors by the honest promotion of what the Peninsula has to offer.

IV CONCLUSION

Much hard work will be needed if the Baie Verte Peninsula is to move towards the classification of a primary destination

area. The investigation into, and the planning and organization of the potential will involve considerable input from government, private enterprise and the public generally. Financial commitment from both the Federal and Provincial Governments is an absolute necessity. A commitment from the residents of the Baie Verte Peninsula is imperative, not only for the part they must play in the development of the industry, but also for the attitude they display towards the tourists. The traditional hospitality, kindness and consideration for which Newfoundlanders are famous must be enchanced at every opportunity.

If the tourist industry can be developed as envisaged, the rewards to both the Peninsula and the province in general will be considerable.

CHAPTER IV

THE FORESTRY

I INTRODUCTION

The Task Force spent many hours examining the status of the forest industry on the Baie Verte Peninsula. The issues were discussed in community meetings, in separate meetings with private sawmill operators, and in meetings with respresentatives of the Provincial Government. The input received was considerable.

It is apparent to the Task Force that there are many problems associated with the forestry. Indeed, a general malaise and pessimism seem to prevail. This has made the writing of this chapter of the report extremely difficult. The Task Force members have struggled to come to grips with the issues and to clarify them in their own minds. Even as this chapter was being written no clear approach was evident. It is hoped, however, that the recommendations are based on as realistic an assessment of the industry as possible.

II THE PURPOSE

Prior to the development of the mining industry on the Baie Verte Peninsula, many men made their living in the woods or, at

least, worked part-time in the woods to supplement their living made from the sea. The 1956 Census of Canada showed that 303 men on the Peninsula listed the forestry as their primary occupation compared with 609 fishermen.[1] The opening of Advocate Mines and Consolidated Rambler Mines, which offered good wages, regular hours and year round employment, caused the number of men employed in the forestry to diminish considerably.

One of the stated purposes of the Task Force is to seek alternative means of employment for those laid-off by the closure of either or both of the mines. The Task Force specifically examined the potential of the forestry to determine whether the same opportunities apply now as prior to the opening of the mines.

III THE FINDINGS

Most of the timber on the Baie Verte Peninsula is controlled by Bowaters Limited. Under an agreement with government, this Company will enjoy the timber rights until the year 2037. There are two areas of Crown Land. One runs from Duck Island Cove in Baie Verte Bay, north to Partridge Point; the other covers the eastern end of the Peninsula from Cape Hat to Burlington. (Figure V). In this latter area the timber is classified as poor. In most of its controlled land, Bowaters enjoys the timber rights to the 'water's edge'. This appears to be a situation unique to White Bay. Elsewhere in the province there is

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[1] Baie Verte Peninsula, Regional Study 1960, op. cit., pp 61 - 63

SALVAGE AREAS
HORSE ISLANDS
OWNERSHIP
RESOURCE ROADS
AREA-A ---167,000 m3
AREA-Q ---112,000 m3
AREA-P ---165,000 m3
AREA-O ---81,000 m3
TEN THOUSAND ME
ZONE 21
AREA-A
AREA-Q
AREA-O
AREA-P
CROWN
CROWN
BOWATER
BAY
Partridge Point
Cape Crossed
Green Point
Seal Cove
Bay Verte
Mary's Harbour
Lewisporte
Grand Falls
Gander
Terra Nova National Park

FIGURE V

a three mile limit from the water's edge. The timber within that limit is on Crown Land.

Bowaters has been harvesting the timber on the Baie Verte Peninsula since the early part of this century. During the past few years their operation has been quite vigorous. They operate one woods camp and employ about 150 men. It does not appear that they have any long range plans to increase the production. They have, in fact, released four areas to the Crown for a four to five year period. (Areas A, O, P, and Q on Figure V).

There are 55 small sawmills registered on the Baie Verte Peninsula. Many of these only operate on a part time basis, some do not operate each year. There are only two operations capable of managing a significant enterprise. It is generally agreed that a production of somewhere between a quarter of a million and a half of a million f.b.m.[1] of sawlogs per annum would be an economical family business. In 1979-80 the production of 30 sawmills was registered. The total sawlog production amounted to 1,206,974 f.b.m., for an average production of 46,232 f.b.m. per operator. One operator produced 600,409 f.b.m.; all the others were below 100,000 f.b.m. In 1981-82 the production of 41 sawmills was registered. The total production amounted to 717,180 f.b.m., for an average production of 17,492 f.b.m. per operator. One operator produced 115,000 f.b.m.; no other operator exceeded 81,000 f.b.m.

From these figures it will be readily understood that a

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[1] f.b.m. stands for foot board measure, a nominal square footage of 12" x 12" x 1"

small sawmill operation has not been a viable concern, at least not as a full-time occupation. The figures quoted above show only the sawlog production which is the most lucrative aspect.

The sawmill operators indicated in their meetings with the Task Force a number of problems related to their operations. Since it is believed that any potential development in the forest industry will be through these operators, the Task Force has concentrated on their concerns.

1. Availability of Timber

The operators complained of the shortage of timber. So much of the timber is owned by Bowaters that insufficient is available to the private entrepreneur. It has already been shown that Bowaters have released four areas to the Crown. The Department of Forestry, in discussion with the Task Force, has indicated its willingness to cut roads into these areas if the operators make application. One operator, Ralph Gillingham of Westport, presented a brief to the Task Force seeking its support for the opening up of the area around Western Arm. (Figure VI). Since it seems that this area has never been harvested, and is difficult for Bowaters to cut due to the deplorable road conditions, this request seems reasonable. Without making any specific recommendation, we would urge that discussion take place between the Department of Forestry and Bowaters to investigate this proposal more fully.

2. Destruction of the Forestry

Although suggestions that the woods are being left in

FIGURE VI

Ralph Lutwyche
Surveyed License # 1873

a deplorable condition were plentiful during the Task Force meetings with the public, further research seems to show that the overall condition is satisfactory. The spruce budworm is taking its toll, however, and it appears that timber is dying in areas not currently being harvested. If this information is true, then the necessary wastage that will ensue must be corrected.

RECOMMENDATION 4:1

> That timber infested by spruce budworm or any other destructive organism, if it appears in danger of being allowed to die, be made available, on application, to any licenced operator, under the direction of the Provincial Department of Forestry.

3. Work Force

The largest sawmill on the Baie Verte Peninsula is owned by Gid Sacrey Limited. This mill is presently not operating and is for sale. This mill has been inspected for the Task Force by an official of the Department of Industrial Development. He confirms that the mill is in good condition, with an excellent planer. It is capable of producing one and a quarter million f.b.m. per year. It should, if fully operative, provide employment in its harvesting, sawmill and planer operations, for between 25 and 50 people. The Department of Forestry confirms that there is five years' supply of timber in the immediate vicinity. The price being asked for the total operation is extremely reasonable. Funding is available, on application, through the Department of Rural Development.

Although Mr. Sacrey produced in excess of 1,000,000

f.b.m. each year from 1963 to 1980, he closed down his operation because he was unable to find men to go into the woods to work, despite the fact that he was paying a wage in excess of that paid by Bowaters Ltd. The attraction of employment at the mines in Baie Verte can account partially for this. All the sawmill operators, however, who met with the Task Force, maintained that the availability of Unemployment Insurance has contributed considerably to the shortage of workers. It is beyond the role of the Task Force to make any recommendation in this regard, except to state that if the work ethic is being eroded by the abuse of Unemployment Insurance payments, then the regulations need to be more strictly enforced.

4. Local Initiative Programs

An unanimous concern of the sawmill operators was that Local Initiative Programs permit their recipients to cut any wood they choose. Often the best wood is cut and the area left in a poor condition. The Task Force views this as inequitable. Sawmill operators who legitimately make their living from the forestry should not be undermined or hindered in this way. They have lumber available which they can supply or they can cut the lumber to meet the needs of the L.I.P. Projects. If this proposal cannot be implemented then we believe that, at the very least, L.I.P Projects must be strictly controlled and under the same regulations that apply to sawmill operators.

RECOMMENDATION 4:2

That recipients of Local Initiative Programs either be subsidized to enable them to purchase all lumber for L.I.P. Projects from local sawmill operators, or, they be strictly controlled under the regulations that apply to sawmill operators.

5. Wood Chip Operations

The Task Force received conflicting reports on the viability of a chip producing or chip mill operation. Some of our discussions suggested that it could be profitable, employing a large number of workers, and serve as a means of cleaning up the woods. Others disagreed stating that the operation was extremely technical and non-viable. The interest in such a venture was so great, however, that it is believed it should be examined further.

RECOMMENDATION 4:3

That the Government, through the Provincial Department of Forestry, investigate the feasibility and viability of a wood chip operation on the Baie Verte Peninsula.

6. Reforestation

After the fishery, the forestry should be Newfoundland's greatest natural resource. One official summed up the present situation by saying, "Our Island is forest poor." Over the decades the forestry has been harvested, but nothing has been put back. Natural regrowth has been expected to supply the needs of the province.

The spruce budworm has wreaked havoc with the industry. The Task Force has been advised that between 16,000,000 and 20,000,000 cords of wood are presently affected. At

1979 figures, this amount of wood would provide 18 years of work for all the saw and paper mills in the province. The Task Force, therefore, has no hesitation in supporting all the efforts of the Provincial Government to control the spruce budworm and indeed, hopefully, to eliminate it, keeping in mind the overall security of the environment and the population.

The Task Force is greatly concerned, however, that so little has been done to replenish the forests. There are no signs of any attempts at reforestation on the Baie Verte Peninsula, although spruce buds are being taken from the Peninsula for reforestation elsewhere. The time span for the natural growth of a tree varies according to the species of tree. The average seems to be about 65 years before the tree reaches harvesting growth. Controlled growth by the planting of saplings cuts the time to harvesting growth by ten years, on the average.

The lifespan of the present industry on the Baie Verte Peninsula is uncertain. Some of our informants believe that within ten years the supply of timber will be gone. Whatever the duration, it is certain that the supply is rapidly declining. Even if the entire Peninsula was replanted now there must, of necessity, be a period of time when very little harvesting will be possible.

The Task Force believes that reforestation, in a planned, controlled manner is imperative. We believe that the regulations in some other provinces are worthy of

consideration, especially the policy that we understand is in force in British Columbia, whereby for every tree taken, two must be planted. A sound reforestation program would create many seasonal jobs and replenish the forests for future generations.

RECOMMENDATION 4:4

That an intensive reforestation program be implemented by government.

7. Market Conditions

Present market conditions have also contributed to the problems of the operators. A few years ago most had little difficulty in selling all their lumber on the Peninsula. The depressed state of the local economy, causing a temporary halt in the construction industry and the exorbitant cost of shipping the lumber to larger centres in the province, have caused some operators to carry a lumber inventory. In view of current interest rates, this they cannot afford.

There is also evidence of 'dumping' of lumber in this province by other provinces. The present market price of maritime lumber is too competitive for the local operator. The Task Force believes that legislation might be necessary to protect local interests.

IV CONCLUSION

It is apparent that any expansion in the forest industry on the Baie Verte Peninsula in the immediate future will be by private sawmill operators. It has been shown in this chapter

that the majority of the operators work part-time in the industry. It has been shown that in recent years no operator has produced sufficient lumber to manage a full-time, viable business. A number of reasons for this state of the industry have been suggested.

It would appear that the sawmill operators are many voices crying in the wilderness. There are individual disputes with government regarding such items as road construction, the snow-clearing of forest roads, and the appropriate machinery to be used in the forestry. There are individual discussions with Bowaters regarding the release of land and the access to timber. There are individual attempts to find markets for the lumber. There are only two mills on the Peninsula capable of dressing the lumber so that all other operators sell it in its rough state.

The Task Force believes that the operators could ease many of these problems if they acted as a unified body. There is strength in numbers. Officials of the Department of Forestry have expressed their willingness to assist and to meet with the operators. If the operators were to form themselves into an association or even a co-operative they would be able to express their concerns as a unified voice. They could also improve their production and marketing capabilities. Possibly they could co-operatively manage the business of Gid Sacrey Limited and each operator produce dressed lumber. Because the Task Force is convinced that the operators need to organize themselves, it recommends:

RECOMMENDATION 4:5

That the independent sawmill operators on the Baie Verte Peninsula form themselves into, at least, an association.

A report of an official of the Department of Forestry that was made available to the Task Force suggests that, in his view, the present state of the forest industry on the Baie Verte Peninsula, impeded as it is by many problems, will result in the creation of no more than 50 additional jobs through any expansion in the sawmill industry. At a meeting with 15 sawmill operators it was shown that their operations presently give employment to 28 people in all. If all things were favourable, these 15 operators were of the opinion that their operations could employ up to 150 people. It is hoped that as a result of its research, the Task Force has suggested some ways whereby employment could be created for a number of workers between the 50 quoted by the Departmental official and the optimum suggested by the sawmill operators.

Finally, the Task Force recognizes that more in-depth research is needed by those more qualified and skilled in the forest industry. The state of the industry concerns us greatly.

RECOMMENDATION 4:6

That in-depth research be conducted, through the auspices of government, into the overall state of the forestry on the Baie Verte Peninsula.

CHAPTER V

MINING

I INTRODUCTION

In 1980 there were 278 operating mines in Canada, producing over 60 different mineral commodities.[1]

> Mineral exports, more than those of any other major industrial sector, make a substantial and positive contribution to Canada's international trade -- producing net trading surpluses which help offset deficits in the country's balance of payments position.[2]

Mineral output in 1980 was equal to 11.2 percent of Canada's Gross National Product.[3]

Newfoundland's mineral value in 1980 accounted for 32.6 percent of the Gross Provincial Product. Newfoundland was the sixth largest provincial producer of minerals in Canada, contributing 3.3 percent the total Canadian mineral value.[4]

These statistics for 1980 indicate clearly the importance of the mining industry to Newfoundland and to Canada generally.

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[1] Mining in Canada, Facts and Figures. (Ottawa: The Mining Association of Canada, 1981), p.6.

[2] Ibid.

[3] Ibid., p.7.

[4] Ibid., p.11.

Over the decades, different mining operations on the Baie Verte Peninsula, especially in and around Baie Verte and in Tilt Cove, have contributed to the economy of the area, the province, and the country. Copper has been the main metallic mineral mined, first in Tilt Cove and latterly at Consolidated Rambler Mines. In 1979 the value of the metal to the province was $19,500,000.00. In 1980 the value declined to $15,200,000.00. Asbestos has been the major non-metallic mineral, mined at Advocate Mines in Baie Verte. In 1980 asbestos rose to be the provinces second most valuable mineral behind iron ore. It accounted for 3.6 percent of total mineral value in the province, with a value, in 1980, of $38,900,000.00.[1] The closure of Advocate Mines Limited and the close-down of Consolidated Rambler Mines Limited cannot fail but to have an adverse effect on the economy of the area and the province.

II THE PURPOSE

The province and the Baie Verte Peninsula have benefitted greatly from the mining operations on the Peninsula. It is essential, therefore, that the two Baie Verte mines re-open as quickly as possible. The Task Force will lend support to these ventures.

It is apparent that the general state of the world's economy, resulting in adverse market conditions, has contributed to the closure of the mines. It is likely that there are other contributing causes. These will be examined.

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[1]Mining in Canada, Facts and Figures, op. cit., p.11.

The Baie Verte Peninsula is rich in mineral deposits. This chapter will address the importance of research and exploration, and suggest means whereby the potential can be more viably pursued.

Finally, the Task Force will offer a suggestion as to how miners, unemployed through permanent or temporary closure of mines, could be temporarily employed.

III THE FUTURE

1. Asbestos and Copper

At the time of the writing of this Report the future of the two mines in Baie Verte is uncertain. The direct loss of over 800 jobs is a catastrophe. The Task Force has deliberately not become involved in negotiations or talks regarding the future of either mine although it has been kept fully informed and individual members have been involved directly.

The efforts of both the Federal and Provincial Governments and of other interested parties to secure the re-opening of the asbestos mine have been outstanding and are deserving of the fullest support of all. The Task Force believes that these efforts must be vigorously maintained until they reach fruition.

RECOMMEDATION 5:1

> That vigorous negotiations continue and every avenue be explored to secure the re-opening of the asbestos mine in Baie Verte.

Conflicting rumors have abounded over the years regard-

ing the fortunes of Consolidated Rambler Mines Limited in Baie Verte. At different times we have heard that the mine is about to close, that its future is secure, that there are to be massive lay-offs, that the grade of the ore is poor, that the ore is high grade, that the ore is depleting, that a new ore body has been found, that insufficient exploration is being conducted, that the markets are down.

The fable of The Boy Crying 'Wolf' was exemplyfied at Rambler Mines. When it did shut down, it was assumed by many to be no more than a rumor. A possible result has been the apparent low-key efforts to have the mine re-opened. Although the future of the mine has not attracted the attention given to Advocate Mines, much deliberation has, in fact, been going on between government and the Company.

Rambler Mines, when fully operational, provides employment to about 210 people from 14 different communities. If the mine has any future then it is in the interests of the Baie Verte Peninsula and of the government that it re-open as quickly as possible. The owners have indicated that the mine will not re-open until market conditions improve. Indeed, the president of the Company has stated that it will not operate at a loss, even a temporary one. Copper is one of the four leading metals in terms of output value in Canada. In 1980 it move up from second to first place in value due to high prices in the early part of the year.[1] There is no doubt that the price of

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[1]Mining in Canada, Facts and Figures, op. cit., p.8.

copper has dropped drastically over the last year so that the industry in general has been severely affected. Markets do fluctuate, however, and mining is an industry that does involve the taking of risks. It would seem reasonable to the Task Force to expect that sound planning and management would allow for some variation in market conditions. A good corporate citizen would not play fast and loose with the lives and security of its workers but would offset some of its profits against its losses. Is the state of the copper market so bad that the current losses outweigh the profits of the past? Is the foreseeable future bleak?

The Task Force cannot answer these questions. We recognize that the markets are poor. We would question, however, whether sufficient recent exploration has been carried out especially in view of the reported profit margin of the company and the indicated potential of the area. The operation appears to be a profit seeking venture rather than a mining operation. A mining operation must involve expenditure on exploration so that by constantly seeking to renew its lifespan it plans for the long term. Statements made by the president of the company suggest that profit is its only concern.

The Task Force believes that the operation of Consolidated Rambler Mines needs to be thoroughly reviewed by the Provincial Department of Mines and Energy and, if necessary, every effort be made to find new owners. Under present legislation the mine could lie dormant for five

years. Is there a healthy ore body on and under land adjoining Rambler property as generally presumed? Have real efforts been made to acquire the land? Can it be acquired by acquisition, if necessary?

Prior to the eventual close-down of Rambler Mines it operated on a month-to-month basis. It is unfair to any employee to hold such a Damoclean sword over his head. It seems to the Task Force to be inequitable and irresponsible to operate a business full time only when times are good and to jeopardize the lives and security of workers by such uncertain conditions when the markets deteriorate. This must never be allowed to happen again.

RECOMMENDATION 5:2

> That the Provincial Government, through the Department of Mines and Energy, thoroughly review the operation of Consolidated Rambler Mines Limited including the viability of the company, its philosophy, and the availability and accessibility of copper ore.

RECOMMENDATION 5:3

> That if the viability of Consolidated Rambler Mines is proven, that every effort be made and every avenue explored to re-open the operation.

RECOMMENDATION 5:4

> That steps be taken to turn over Consolidated Rambler Mines to another interested operator if it appears that the operation is to be allowed to lie dormant.

2. Silica

A deposit of silica has been discovered and proven by the Department of Mines and Energy at La Scie. This deposit is a Crown owned resource.

It appears that about 900,000 tons of silicon can be extracted. It is reported to be of high quality and could be used in the production of silicon which is the metal from which silicon chips are made.

The production of silicon alloys is a power intensive industry. If the silicon is to be manufactured, as well as mined in La Scie, then greater power will be needed to operate the silicon smelters. The use of Cat Arm and/or Labrador hydroelectricity, therefore, will have to be considered in efforts towards development.

A silicon smelter would involved a two furnace operation which could employ 160 workers. The mining operation itself would employ about 20 men. It is believed that the total operation, mining and production, could have a lifespan of 20 years.

RECOMMENDATION 5:5

> That the co-ordination of the essential inputs required from various government departments and agencies for the realization of a silicon industry in La Scie be undertaken immediately.

3. Other Potential

The Mining Association of Canada in its 1980 Report stated:

> The continuing growth of the mining industry depends on many factors ... Above all, since mining is a risk-taking industry, investors must be confident in the prospect for stability in government policies -- policies which encourage exploration, development, production, and marketing of mineral products.[1]

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[1] Mining in Canada, Facts and Figures, op. cit., p.6.

The Provincial Government has recently enacted legislation that will encourage exploration and development. There are many significant mineral properties in the province that were acquired in the past and held on fee simple mining grants. This meant, in effect, that the land could be held for "ever and a day". The land did not have to be worked and, in many cases, the whereabouts of the claimants was unknown. In March 1982 a list of fee simple holdings was published and if nobody claimed a holding by June 21, 1982, it reverted to the Crown and was open to new claims. The Task Force supports this government initiative, especially since the Baie Verte Peninsula is rich in minerals and many claims were held in fee simple. It is believed that when market conditions improve and money is re-invested in exploration and research, the Peninsula will thrive.

4. Mining Sector Work Program

Newfoundland's mining industry is presently experiencing a market recession with reduced market demand for most minerals. This has resulted in the permanent closure of mines and the long term, but temporary, shut-down of other mines. This has caused many workers to be laid off. Some have moved from their communities and have found work elsewhere. Many of these workers are highly skilled and experienced. When the market conditions improve and the mines reopen the workers might be difficult to replace. There might be considerable cost involved in training replacement staff.

Because of a similar situation in Ontario, that

province has announced the introduction of a program of employment bridging to provide temporary work in resource management projects. The stated purpose of the program is:

> ... to allow mining dependent communities to retain their skilled miners and other workers, maintain their mining payroll, and sustain their communities' social and economic vigor. This will be done by employing currently unemployed mining industry workers in an expanded program of mining related projects. The program will allow mining companies or other sponsors to hire laid-off employees for the purpose of undertaking work on these projects. The sponsors will develop proposals in concert with MNR and, when approved, will re-employ a core of these skilled workers.[1]

The proposal lists a variety of projects that could be undertaken, including: the fencing of abandoned mine sites, shafts, pits; the removal of tailings where leaching is a concern; mining related research projects; cartography and production of G-type maps from OBM base or T and M series maps; inventory projects by geologists.

The Task Force believes that this proposal could form a basis for an excellent bridging program in this province. Accordingly, we recommend:

RECOMMENDATION 5:6

> That the Provincial Government investigate means of providing work programs for unemployed industry workers.

IV CONCLUSION

Mineral resources constitute an enormous potential for the

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[1] Mining Sector Work Program Canada-Ontario, (A program of employment bridging for mining industry workers). Program Guidelines for Project Sponsors. March 1982. PC S-3. Draft Copy, p.1.

creation of wealth, of economic activity and of social well-being. These resources must first be identified, then assessed and, finally, developed. It is not until they are developed and put into commercial production that economic rent and, hence, real, substantial benefits are derived from their use.

The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, over the years, has been building up a mineral resource data base through geological and other geoscientific mapping, some assessment of deposits and related activities.

The Department of Mines and Energy has built up a large fund of knowledge and data on the province's mineral resources and has considerable expertise in the whole field of mineral resource management.

The time has come when the province should embark upon a program designed specifically to facilitate the realization of new developments based on mineral resources. This responsibility can best be discharged by the department which already has the necessary information and expertise to do the job that is required. That is the Department of Mines and Energy.

A limited amount of realignment and a very small addition in staff should make it possible to establish a unit that could accomplish a great deal toward realizing the establishment of more enterprises based on minerals. One example, for the Baie Verte Peninsula, is the silica deposit proven up by the Department many years ago and which, among the numerous other opportunities in the province, should be actively and aggressively pursued for development by companies who might be sold on such

opportunities but tend to wait for someone to approach them. Part of the requirement is a selling job carried out by persons knowledgeable in the mineral resources field and who would energetically pursue, with industry, the various parameters required to realize new developments based on such resources.

RECOMMENDATION 5:7

> That a unit with specific mineral development-related responsibility be established in the Department of Mines and Energy.

CHAPTER VI

COMMUNITY SERVICES

I INTRODUCTION

In conducting its research the Task Force was also cognizant of the community needs of the Baie Verte Peninsula. It limited its findings to areas where improved or new services were needed and where an implementation of those services could enhance the employment opportunities of the residents.

II MEDICAL FACILITIES

The Baie Verte Peninsula Health Centre provides all the medical serices for the Peninsula with the exception of La Scie and neighbouring communities where the services of an independent doctor are available. The only hospital is in Baie Verte and is part of the Baie Verte Peninsula Health Centre.

The M. J. Boylen Hospital is a 40-bed hospital. There are seven doctors. The hospital was built when the population of the Peninsula was much less than at present. The facilities at the hospital, especially the out-patient department, the records department, and the laboratory are inadequate to cater to the needs of the Peninsula.

The Hospital Board of Trustees has already made a

presentation to government seeking an extension to the hospital. The Task Force is convinced that this extension is needed and supports the request wholeheartedly.

RECOMMENDATION 6:1

That an extension be added to the M. J. Boylen Hospital.

III SENIOR CITIZENS' COMPLEX

Some of our citizens, as they get older, are able to manage in their own homes; others are cared for by their families. There are those, however, who need the services of some form of institutionalized care. Since research has indicated that people, generally, are living longer lives, the number of residents seeking custodial or nursing care will increase.

There are no facilities for the care of senior citizens on the Baie Verte Peninsula. The M. J. Boylen Hospital has 28 acute care beds. At times as many as 15 of those beds have been taken by geriatric patients. A number of senior citizens have made application for admission to senior citizens' homes in other parts of central Newfoundland. There is a long waiting list, however, so that it can be years before admission is gained.

The public health nurses from the Baie Verte Peninsula Health Centre presently visit some 200 senior citizens on the Peninsula. It is their opinion that at least 145 of these are eligible, if they so choose, for some type of accommodation. A high proportion of the senior citizens require nursing care.

The Task Force has met with respresentatives of the

Department of Social Services. A committee to liaise further with the Department has been appointed and as a result of subsequent meetings, researchers for the Department of Social Services are now visiting each community on the Peninsula to determine the actual need and desirability of a senior citizens' home. Since the Task Force is convinced that this research will prove positive, it recommends:

RECOMMENDATION 6:2

That a senior citizens' home be established in Baie Verte.

The Task Force recommends Baie Verte as the location for the home since it believes that it should be situated as close to the hospital as possible so that medical care can be easily obtained. It is believed that a 70-bed home is the minimal need. This should create employment for 70 people and result in a payroll of around $1,000,000.00 per annum.

In the long term, the Task Force believes that housekeeping cottages will also be needed. Since it is advisable for residents to be located as close to their own homes as possible, it is the hope of the Task Force that some of the cottages be located at the eastern end of the Peninsula.

IV HYDRO

During its visits to the various communities on the Baie Verte Peninsula, the Task Force was asked, on a few occasions, to examine the potential for mini-hydro developments using the source of water available near the interested communities.

The community of Westport also impressed upon the Task Force their need for a regular grid connection. At the moment

Westport is powered by diesel which results in the residents paying higher rates for electricity than communities on the main grid system.

The Task Force met with representatives of Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro. They promised to research the potential fully. The Task Force wishes to commend Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro for their extreme co-operation. They have carried out the necessary research and kept the Task Force advised by both telephone calls and mail.

The Task Force is cognizant of the fact that job creation is its main task. It has also to view the interests of the residents of the Peninsula as a whole. As such, the long term interest, can at times, supercede the potential for short term job creation. Within this section of this chapter the long term interests of the residents of Westport are our major concern.

The Task Force inquired about the potential use for mini-hydro projects of Woodstock River (also known as Pacquet River), Burlington River (also known as East Brook), Middle Arm River, Wild Cove Brook and Rattling Brook. Both the environmental concerns and the cost of the development of these potential sites had to be explored.

For either environmental or financial reasons Woodstock River, Burlington River and Middle Arm River were considered inappropriate. Research by Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro also determined that development of the Rattling Brook site was uneconomical.

Development of the Wild Cove appears to be economically viable. In reaching this conclusion, Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro have made no provision for the additional cost of providing for salmon enhancement. This will have to be done since Wild Cove Brook is a scheduled salmon river. Despite this additional cost the project appears attractive.

A mini-hydro project on the Wild Cove Brook would provide jobs during the construction of the plant. The project, however, would only supplement the source of power for the residents of Westport. During peak periods they might still have to rely on the diesel source. They would, therefore, enjoy very little, if any, savings in the cost of their power.

Although a mini-hydro project on the Wild Cove Brook would provide short-term employment, because of the possible environmental disruption, and mainly because of the little advantage that would accrue to the residents of Westport, the Task Force has determined that this is not the best route.

The government policy for some time has been to close down diesel power supply when it can be shown that it is economically viable in the long term to hook a community into the main power grid. The installation of grid-interconnections for the community of Westport would create very few jobs. The electricity rates for the residents would be greatly reduced, however, bringing them on the same scale as other residents of the province. The cost of such a project would be somewhere in excess of $1,400,000.00. This does appear to be a viable proposition and a cheaper project than a mini-hydro installation.

In view of the above facts, and also because we hope for the installation of some freezing facilities for the fishermen of Westport which will call for three-phase power, the Task Force recommends:

RECOMMENDATION 6:3

That a grid inter-connection system be further investigated for the community of Westport.

CHAPTER VII

OFFSHORE DEVELOPMENT

The Task Force met with representatives of the Petroleum Directorate and with officials of the Department of Development to discuss the potential opportunities that will be created with the development of the offshore oil and gas. A public meeting was also held in Baie Verte when the historical background and the potential of the offshore development were explained.

The Task Force is unable at this stage to offer any constructive suggestions whereby communities or individuals on the Baie Verte Peninsula could become directly or indirectly involved in the various projects associated with the offshore development. It is felt that public knowledge and understanding of the complexities of offshore development are still very vague. As the province becomes more involved and as citizens become more literate in the language of the industry, potential opportunities might present themselves. At that time the Task Force will do all in its power to assist any viable proposals.

Representatives of the Provincial Government did visit the property of Advocate Mines Limited. The facilities available, especially the workshops and dock site, appear very

suitable for use in certain aspects of the offshore industry. The facilities could be very easily adapted to enable the construction of modules for the oil rigs to take place.

Accordingly, we recommend:

RECOMMENDATION 7:1

> That in the event that the asbestos mine in Baie Verte not re-open, the potential use of the facilities of the mine be vigorously researched to determine their suitability for the use in the offshore oil and gas industry.

CHAPTER VIII

EDUCATION

I INTRODUCTION

When the Task Force first met to establish its priorities and determine the areas that needed investigation in order to enhance the potential economic base of the Baie Verte Peninsula, it realized that a chapter on education was essential. The threatened closure of the mines in Baie Verte meant that many former employees could be in need of retraining or upgrading. The accessibility of the two mine sites, whatever the future of the mines, indicated great potential for various mining related courses where practical application could be melded with the theoretical background. The availability of shop space at the District Vocational School in Baie Verte suggested opportunities for broadening the course offerings.

II THE PURPOSE

The Baie Verte Peninsula is well served by primary, elementary, and secondary schools under the jurisdiction of Integrated, Roman Catholic and Pentecostal School Boards. The only post-secondary institution on the Peninsula is the District Vocational School in Baie Verte.

The main purpose of this chapter is to suggest ways in which the potential of the District Vocational School might be better enchanced. The Task Force also offers a recommendation by which the needs of mentally handicapped adults might be met.

III POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

When the District Vocational School opened in Baie Verte in 1973, it offered courses in business education, carpentry, electrical, heavy duty repair, millwright, steam pipefitting, and upgrading. There were also fishery and pre-vocational courses. The electrical and steam pipefitting courses have been discontinued due to a decline in enrollment. The fishery courses have been lost because the Fisheries College was being undermined. Welding and drafting courses have been added to the curriculum.

As a result of the loss of certain courses, some of the facilities at the District Vocational School are unused. The electric shop, the electronic shop, and the beauty culture department, are lying vacant.

Two of the original courses offered at the school were discontinued because of a decline in student enrollment. This is understandable when it is realized that the school caters mainly to the local population, that is, the population of the Baie Verte Peninsula. The industrial base of the Peninsula and the employment opportunities on the Peninsula are low. The courses presently offered are available at other centres,

so there is no inducement for students from outside the Peninsula to enrol in the District Vocational School in Baie Verte.

The administration has shown much initiative. A variety of alternative courses has been proposed. These include a two-year technician's course, a one-year electronics technology course, a nine-month health records technician's course, and a nine-month radio operator course. Over 40 students from the province expressed interest in the technician's course, which would train electronics systems technicians; the health records technician's course is only offered in one other area in English speaking Canada; the radio operator course is not offered anywhere in Newfoundland. District Vocational Schools are under the immediate jurisdiction of the Provincial Department of Education. Unfortunately, these schools are on a "holding" position at the moment due, in no small measure, to economic restraints. Subsequent to the Report of the Task Force on Education (1980), decisions have also to be made regarding the government's overall philosophy to post-secondary education. All the proposals put forward by the administration of the District Vocational School in Baie Verte have been rejected pro tempore for reasons which include those mentioned above. Officials of the Department of Education have expressed an appreciation of the problems, however, and of the initiative shown by the school administration.

The Task Force is convinced that the future of the District Vocational School in Baie Verte depends on a broadening of the curriculum so that specialized courses can be

offered, in addition to those that cater to local needs. We believe that the proposals put forward by the administration are worthy of the most serious consideration. If implemented, they would attract students from across the province and possibly from the mainland of Canada. They would also utilize the vacant shops in the school.

RECOMMENDATION 8:1

That specialized courses be introduced at the District Vocational School in Baie Verte.

Although specialized courses will act as an inducement, students will only be able to enrol in the programs if suitable accommodation is available. Student residences presently exist in two areas, namely, Happy Valley and the Burin Peninsula. The construction of a suitable student residence in Baie Verte would attract students to the area and provide additional employment to local residents.

RECOMMENDATION 8:2

That a student residence be established in Baie Verte.

The mining industry in Canada has been beset with many problems, not the least of which has been inadequately trained and dissatisfied employees. This lack of training has resulted in an extremely high turnover of unskilled labourers in the industry generally. The labour shortages, training and re-training, have been a real concern to mine management. Many training programs have been initiated. In Newfoundland, for example, the Bay St. George Community College offers a two-year program in mineral technology; the remaining trade and

vocational schools offer training in various occupations, not exclusively related to mining. A problem common to all these facilities is the limited access to adequate on-the-job training with little exposure to the problems experienced in a working environment.

The proximity of the District Vocational School to the two mines at Baie Verte, one an open pit mine, the other an underground mine, makes it an ideal training centre for mining related courses. The establish of a students' residence would further enhance the potential. The programs could be developed to take advantage of the mine facilities whether the mines remain closed or re-open. If they re-open it would be hoped that the mine management would co-operate in and indeed encourage the venture. The Task Force envisages the project being a joint federal-provincial undertaking with the District Vocational School in Baie Verte playing an important part in the estalishment and administration of the training facility. It has already been recommended that specialized courses be offered at the school. This venture would introduce specialized courses unique to the province. Indeed, similar programs on the mainland of Canada are meagre.

It is not the intention of the Task Force that mining related courses at Baie Verte should in anyway infringe upon the Mineral Technology Program at the Bay St. George Community Centre. Rather it is envisaged that each educational establishment will complement the other.

The Task Force has met on a number of occasions with the

administration of the school in Baie Verte. The Principal, Max Jacobs, has proposed a number of mining related courses of varying duration. The Task Force has also met with representatives of the Department of Mines and Energy who have also suggested programs that could be offered. Although there are some differences between the proposals, there is no doubt that there is agreement on the basic philosophy that the educational opportunities must be grasped. The research done to date is detailed and practical. The Task Force does not intend to specify the programs to be offered, but to recommend that discussions continue so that the potential can be realized.

RECOMMENDATION 8:3

> That mining related courses be developed at the District Vocational School in Baie Verte through joint discussions and research between the Department of Education, the Department of Mines and Energy, and the administration of the school.

District vocational schools are presently under the jurisdiction of the Department of Education. Courses are approved by the Department of Education which also provides the funding for the courses. Economic restraints have caused the Department to establish a policy that limits course offerings to those that cater to local job markets. A result of this policy is that many of the district vocational schools duplicate services. The Task Force on Education recommended the establishment of community colleges in the province. Recommendation 7:1 of that Report reads:

> That a community college system be established in the

province.[1]

The Report suggested that the province be divided into six regions and went on to suggest, in recommendation 7:4:

> That district vocational schools be incorporated directly into the community college regions and that vocational school buildings serve as the primary facilities for the community colleges.[2]

The Baie Verte Peninsula Task Force supports this concept. Community colleges, although still funded through the Department of Education, are much more autonomous with their own boards of directors. These colleges can cater to local needs but can also offer specialized courses that fulfill a provincial need. The recommendations already made regarding specialized course offerings in Baie Verte would probably be more likely to reach fruition under the umbrella of a community college.

RECOMMENDATION 8:4

> That the concept of community colleges be vigorously pursued.

IV WORK ORIENTATION REHABILITATION CENTRE

The introduction of specialist units for trainable mentally retarded (T.M.R.) children in the elementary and secondary schools in this province was a great leap forward in meeting the needs of the mentally handicapped. Five of these classes now operate on the Baie Verte Peninsula.

No formal training is available for the mentally handicapped after they leave the T.M.R. classes or for those who

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[1] Task Force on Education, Improving School Retention and Post-Secondary Participation, "Educational Challenge of the 80's", (St. John's, 1980), p. 136.

[2] Ibid., p. 150.

never attended these classes. These adults, for the most part, are cared for by their families. There are, at the moment, 38 mentally retarded adults on the Baie Verte Peninsula. In time those presently attending T.M.R. classes will join their ranks. There are mentally handicapped infants on the Peninsula who have not yet started school. In total there are in excess of 100 mentally retarded people on the Peninsula.

A representative of the Task Force has visited the Calypso Foundation in Lewisporte. This sheltered workshop is a work orientation rehabilitation centre (W.O.R.C.) for mentally retarded adults. The work done at this centre is most impressive.

The local organization for the mentally handicapped on the Baie Verte Peninsula is striving to introduce a similar program. It will help adults who are capable of being trained to become more self reliant and useful members of society. The Task Force supports this venture unreservedly.

RECOMMENDATION 8.5

> That the Provincial Government, through the Department of Social Services, support in every way possible the attempts to establish a work orientation rehabilitation centre for mentally handicapped adults on the Baie Verte Peninsula.

V CONCLUSION

In this chapter the Task Force has concentrated on two areas, namely, the potential for an improved post-secondary program on the Baie Verte Peninsula, and the needs of the mentally handicapped adults. These were considered to be areas where practical and viable recommendations could be made.

They were also seen as the areas within the educational field where the greatest potential exists for improving the economic base of the Peninsula.

CHAPTER IX

SUMMARY, FINDINGS AND IMPLICATIONS

I SUMMARY

In this Report the Task Force has briefly reviewed the events leading to its appointment. The closure of Advocate Mines Limited and Consolidated Rambler Mines Limited in Baie Verte has devastating implications for the economic well-being and social security of the Baie Verte Peninsula. The Task Force was appointed to research "... any and all economic opportunities for future development of the Baie Verte Peninsula." This Report has attempted to indicate areas in which the economic potential of the Peninsula might be enhanced.

As a result of its research the Task Force has been able to comment on the present status and future potential of the fishery, tourism, forestry, mining, community services, and education. A brief reference has also been made to offshore oil and gas development.

II THE FINDINGS

In Chapter I of this Report it was emphasized that the individual Task Force members have no or little expertise in

any of the areas researched. The findings, therefore, are a result of the input that the Task Force has received from residents of the Peninsula, from representatives of government departments and agencies, from other interested parties, and from various related literature. The whole is as an objective an assessment as the Task Force could make.

In all there are 56 recommendations. There are also some strong suggestions that either do not lend themselves to being made into specific recommendations or which were felt to be peripheral to the Task Force's immediate assignment.

The thrust of the recommendations is aimed at improving the economic potential of the Baie Verte Peninsula. The Task Force was concerned with the apparent wastage in certain industries resulting in lost opportunity. The full potential of the fishery, for example, is not exploited. Lack of easy access to fish plants causes too much of the more fragile catch to be lost; the accessibility to crab stocks is denied through licencing regulations to fishermen who reside the closest to the crab beds; the comparatively short operational season of fish plants limits local productivity and employment; the failure to complete a large fish plant, already licenced, is depriving hundreds of employment; inadequate landing stages and wharves cause some fishermen to sell their catches outside the Peninsula. The forestry appears to be in a terminable state. No reforestation has been taking place; a number of sawmill owners are operating businesses that are too small to offer a livelihood; the largest sawmill on the Peninsula is lying dormant;

timber is being destroyed by spruce budworm and left to rot. There is no tourist industry on the Peninsula although the potential is exciting. Empty workshops lie unused in the District Vocational School.

The Task Force, in its recommendations, has attempted to answer these and other needs. Because it believes that much can be done, it has entitled its Report, "Potential for Growth".

III THE IMPLICATIONS

It must be emphasized that the Task Force has made no attempt to do an analysis of the cost of implementing its recommendations. It realizes, however, that the total cost could be high. It leaves it to others to determine the economic viability of the proposals and to establish the priorities. The Task Force believes that the recommendations, which were made after careful analysis of the research, reflect the feelings and suggestions of those who provided input. Many suggestions were omitted from the final document because, in the opinion of the Task Force, they lacked force and viability.

The 55 recommendations in the main body of this Report are fully supported by the Task Force. Because we believe in them, we wish to see them through to fruition. We recognize that more knowledgeable heads than ours might judge some to be impractical, worthless, or too costly. We wish to monitor the progress of the total Report, however, and to add to it as conditions so dictate. Accordingly, we recommend:

RECOMMENDATION 9:1

That the mandate of the Baie Verte Peninsula Task Force

be extended until it is determined that its work is complete.

Finally it must be realized that, although implementation of the recommendations in this Report will create many jobs in different locales on the Baie Verte Peninsula, alternative employment to replace the total number of jobs lost by the closure of the two mines in Baie Verte will not be effected. It has been suggested that if research had been done years ago, the industrial base of the Peninsula could have been expanded long before now. The reality of this situation, however, is that even if the industrial base had been expanded, the closure of the two mines would still have resulted in the lost of more than 800 jobs. The most that this report can achieve, apart from its strong support for the re-opening of the mines, is the broadening of the economic potential so that the viability of the Peninsula can be maintained and, hopefully, enhanced.

APPENDICES

GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
DEPARTMENT OF FOREST RESOURCES AND LANDS

Office of the
Deputy Minister

November 10, 1981.

P.O. Box 4750
St. John's, Nfld.
A1C 5T7

Mr. C.M. Parry,
Chairman,
Baie Verte Task Force,
P.O. Box 338,
Baie Verte,
Newfoundland
A0K 1B0

Dear Mr. Parry:

Mr. Bob Peters of the Cabinet Secretariat, has forwarded to me your letter of October 30, 1981, in which you request specific information with respect to the forest resources of the Baie Verte Peninsula.

I have requested Mr. S.W. Hoddinott, Assistant Deputy Minister of Regional Services of this Department to contact you directly and provide any and all information we have which may be of assistance to the Task Force. If he has not already done so, he should be in contact with you in the immediate future in this regard.

At this time I would emphasize that the Department is available to give the Task Force full and complete co-operation in this matter.

Yours sincerely,

H.H. Stanley,
Deputy Minister.

c.c. Mr. R. Peters
Mr. S.W. Hoddinott
HHS/pa

000096

BAIE VERTE PENINSULA HEALTH CENTRE

BAIE VERTE, NEWFOUNDLAND A0K 1B0
TELEPHONE 532 4281
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DIVISIONS
M.J. Boyden Hospital
Baie Verte District Medical Services
Baie Verte Peninsula Community Health Services

AFFILIATED WITH
Division of Mission
United Church of Canada
Faculty of Medicine
Memorial University of Nfld

March 1, 1982

TO: BAIE VERTE TASK FORCE COMMITTEE

FROM: A.J. ASHBOURNE, ADMINISTRATOR, BAIE VERTE PENINSULA HEALTH CENTER, ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

SUBJECT: SENIOR CITIZENS' AND NURSING HOME IN BAIE VERTE

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and staff of this institution, it is with pleasure that I submit the following brief.

Over the past several years and especially during the past year, it has become quite evident for the need of a Senior Citizens' Complex on the Baie Verte Peninsula. During the past number of years this hospital has tried its best to accommodate the senior citizens either requiring custodial or nursing care. Over the past year, the need for accommodations for both these types of patients has increased to the point that we, as an acute care institution, just cannot meet the demand. We have found during the past 6 months that as many as fifteen of our 28 acute care beds have been taken up by geriatric patients.

At present, our Public Health nurses visit some 200 senior citizens on the Peninsula. It is their opinion that at least 145 of these are eligible for some type of accommodation. Twenty three of these require immediate nursing care, however with the present overcrowding in all geriatric and nursing homes in the province, it is just impossible to have these people placed. We have had applications into three senior citizens' complexes for two of our patients for the past five months, and on checking, even today, find that there is no hope for admission in the immediate future. We know of patients who have made application for admission only to have to wait for a period of eighteen months.

While we realize that several of the senior citizens' homes in the central Newfoundland area are requesting extensions, which no doubt would take care of some of the needs, we as a Board feel that there is an acute need for such a facility on the Baie Verte Peninsula.

At a time when the economic conditions on the Baie Verte Peninsula are far from stable, the financial impact of such a complex on the peninsula would be significant. On checking out the staffing situation, we have been advised that the ratio of the patient/staff is about one for one. If such is the case, we could see a payroll alone in excess of $1,000,000. This together with a spin-off for local purchasing, staff accommodations, etc. running into several hundreds of thousands of dollars would mean a significant impact on the economy of the area.

We would consider that any institution less than 70 beds with at least 35 of these being designated for nursing care would be inadequate.

We could visualize within a very short time the need for housekeeping cottages to be built adjacent to the complex.

We would recommend that if such an institution becomes a reality that it would be built adjacent or near the hospital complex and be operated under the Hospital Board. We feel that several of the services required, such as laundry and dietary, could be a joint service with the hospital.

It is with pleasure that we as a board and staff of this institution support your endeavours and offer any assistance which we may be able to give.

A. J. Ashbourne.

A.J. ASHBOURNE, ADMINISTRATOR
ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF BAIE
VERTE PENINSULA HEALTH CENTER.

AJA/cl

cc Mr. Wm. Dixon, Chairman, Hospital Board

BAIE VERTE PEN SULA TASK FORCE

P.O. Box 338
Baie Verte, NF
A0K 1B0

D. M. Parry
Chairman

Father W. Matthews
Secretary

1982 03 12

The Honorable Brian Peckford
Premier of Newfoundland & Labrador
Confederation Building
St. John's, NF

Dear Premier:

On behalf of the Baie Verte Peninsula Task Force may I express our appreciation of the obvious interest that you are showing in our work. The opportunity to meet with you on Tuesday, March 9, was an indication of that interest. The tremendous co-operation we received from all the departments of government with whom we met during our visit to St. John's further serves to impress upon us the importance that your government has attached to the future of the Baie Verte Peninsula.

One of our major priorities for the Peninsula is the establishment of a senior citizens home, concerning which we received a brief from the Baie Verte Peninsula Health Centre. Research conducted by the medical staff of the hospital indicates that such a home is certainly warranted.

We discussed this project with Mr. Gil Pike, Deputy Minister of the Department of Social Services. He advised us of the procedure to be followed and recommended the appointment of a small committee to conduct more in-depth research. His officials would liaise with that committee. We have already appointed this committee and it holds its first meeting tonight. It comprises Mr. James Quick (Chairman), Mr. Chesley Normore of the Department of Social Services, and Nurse Renolds, the Senior Public Health Nurse.

We understand from Mr. Pike that a list has, or is about to be, presented to Cabinet indicating the communities where new senior citizens' homes are requested. My purpose in writing is to urge your government not to limit its discussions to the communities listed, but to leave the door open for an application from the Baie Verte Peninsula. I can assure you that our committee will pursue its research vigorously so that a final proposal can be forthcoming as soon as possible. Mr. Pike has assured us of the

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full co-operation and assistance of his Department.

With sincere best wishes.

Yours truly,

D. M. Parry
Chairman

cc Mr. Gil Pike
Deputy Minister
Department of Social Services

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THE OFFICE OF

THE PREMIER

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE
OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

May 13, 1982

Mr. Michael Parry, Chairman
Baie Verte Peninsula Task Force
P. O. Box 338
Baie Verte, Nfld.

Dear Mr. Parry:

On behalf of the Premier, I acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 1982 03 12. I apologize for the delayed reply but you no doubt appreciate that a "certain event" in March and April interrupted the orderly flow of affairs.

The Honourable Premier has asked me to indicate to you that he has a great deal of sympathy for your initiatives re the establishment of a Senior Citizens Home on the Baie Verte Peninsula. Your liaison with Mr. Gil Pike, Deputy Minister of Social Services and your subsequent follow-up is the proper route to take and ought to be persued. You can be assured that as the situation unfolds, Government will be very cognizant of your needs.

With every best wish to you and the Baie Verte Peninsula Task Force.

I remain,

Sincerely yours,

TOM RIDEOUT, M.H.A.
Parliamentary Assistant
to the Premier

:sc

cc: Hon. Premier

GOVERNMENT OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Office of the
Deputy Minister

1982 03 12

ST. JOHN'S

Mr. Mike Parry,
Chairman,
Baie Verte Peninsula Task Force,
Baie Verte, Newfoundland.

Dear Mr. Parry,

During our meeting on Wednesday, March 10th we indicated that we would be pleased to send along to you a data sheet concerning the number of beds, rates, staffing etc. in the Church and Interfaith Homes across the Province. This sheet is attached for your information.

Should you require any further information or assistance from our Department, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

GILBERT PIKE,
Deputy Minister.

GP/va

Attach.

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BAIE VERTE PENINSULA TASK FORCE

D.M.Parry
Chairman

673-3855 (Office)
532-8235 (Home)

P.O. Box 338
Baie Verte
A0K 1B0

82 04 12

Mr. Joe Ryan
Director
Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation
120 Torbay Road
St. John's
A1A 2C8

Dear Sir,

In October 1981 The Premier appointed a special Task Force to examine the economic potential of the Baie Verte Peninsula. This appointment was necessitated as a result of the closure of Advocate Mines.

We are very interested in establishing a Senior Citizens' Home on the Peninsula. We have discussed this proposal with Mr. Gil Pike, Deputy Minister with the Department of Social Services. He has explained the procedure that has to be followed. We understand that after initial approval by the Department of Social Services, funding has to be sought by the Board of the proposed facility from C.M.H.C.

A committee has been appointed to conduct all the necessary research. It will be meeting with representatives of the Department of Social Services in the near future. The Chairman of this committee is Mr. James Quick of Baie Verte.

I am writing to enquire as to the procedure that has to be followed in funding this venture. What funding is available and at what interest rate? We know that the clientelle exist for such a Home. Once the formal application has been made, do you foresee any problem with funding the venture?

I would be most grateful for any assistance you could give us in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

D.M.Parry
Chairman

c.c. James Quick

BAIE VERTE PENINSULA TASK FORCE

D.M.Parry
Chairman

673-3855 (Office)
532-8235 (Home)

P.O. Box 338,
Baie Verte
A0K 1B0

82 04 12

Lionel Rowe
Department of Fisheries and Oceans
P.O. Box 5667
St. John's.

Dear Mr. Rowe,

Thank you for arranging for the Baie Verte Peninsula Task Force to meet with representatives of the Federal Fisheries. We had a good session with Phonse Pittman and Fred Lee.

As you are aware the Fish Plant in La Scie is licensed to process crab. According to the Manager of the plant, they operated their crab section for 103 days last year but only processed crab for 36 days. This was due to the difficulty of obtaining crab at the plant.

There is an uncompleted plant at Fleur de Lys owned by the Quinlan Brothers. They are licensed also to process crab. There is a very good possibility that this plant will be completed in the near future.

The Task Force is very concerned that no crab licenses have been issued to the fishermen in White Bay who reside on the Baie Verte Peninsula. We are given to understand that the crab beds between Horse Islands and Grey Islands are among the best in Eastern Canada. All the crab available are being taken by fishermen from other areas. Until licenses are made available to our fishermen the plant at La Scie will operate below full capacity, and the plant at Fleur de Lys will have a doubtful future.

Since you are the Secretary of the Crab Advisory Committee, I am writing to request that serious consideration be given to the awarding of crab licenses to our fishermen. Our discussions would suggest that four licenses are needed for the La Scie end of the Peninsula and four for the area around Fleur de Lys. We realise that the present system of awarding licenses is not by specific areas. In view of the unemployment problem presently being encountered on the Peninsula, however, we would earnestly request that a more equitable system be adopted to meet the peculiar needs of the Peninsula, to ensure, as far as is possible, that the licensed fishermen will deliver their catch to the plants on the Peninsula.

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Many of the miners who have been laid off as a result of the closure of Advocate Mines were fishermen before they went mining. Many of them still own their boats and equipment. Some of them hold part-time fishing licenses. Can special consideration be given to those individuals who now wish to return to the fishery full-time so that they can obtain fishing licenses without going through the lengthy process normally required? We realise that the regulations are being enforced quite rigidly, but again we would ask that the peculiar circumstances of the Baie Verte Peninsula be taken into consideration. Many of the unemployed miners have no training or trade and know nothing except for fishing.

Finally, we would formally request, that a representative from this Peninsula be appointed to the Crab Advisory Board.

Yours sincerely,

D.M.Parry
Chairman

Government of Canada / Gouvernement du Canada

Fisheries and Oceans / Pêches et Océans

Your file / Votre référence

Our file / Notre référence

5626-82/1-1

30 April, 1982

Mr. D. M. Parry
Chairman
Baie Verte Peninsula Task Force
P. O. Box 338
Baie Verte, Nfld.
A0K 1B0

Dear Mr. Parry:

This is in reference to your recent letter regarding the issuance of Crab Licences in the Baie Verte Peninsula area.

Please be advised that a final decision has not yet been made respecting the number and distribution of Crab Licences for the White Bay and Notre Dame Bay areas.

The Department is not considering additional representatives for the Crab Advisory Committee at this time. The membership of this committee represents the overall crab industry, and concerns can be expressed through the current representatives.

In your letter you state that there are a number of 'part-time' fishermen in the Baie Verte area who have been laid-off as a result of the closure of Advocate Mines. Our current policy does not permit the issuance of new licences and registrations because of over-capacities in the harvesting sector. Consequently, we are not in a position to provide licences for those individuals effected by the layoff.

Very truly yours,

JOHN C. ROSE
Licencing Administrator
Resource Management Branch

JCR:br

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BAIE VERTE PENINSULA TASK FORCE

D.M.Parry
Chairman

Father W. Matthews
Secretary

P.O. Box 338,
Baie Verte, A0K 1B0

82 04 26

Hon. William Rompkey,
Minister of Internal Revenue,
House of Commons,
Ottawa.

Dear Bill,

Further to our meeting in Baie Verte, there are a few concerns with which we would ask your assistance

We are still extremely concerned about the awarding of crab licences on the Baie Verte Peninsula. We have met with representatives of the Federal Fisheries who have explained to us the normal procedure for the awarding of licences. As we understand it, if it is decided to award three or four licences to fish the stock around the Horse Islands, the licences would be awarded, possibly by the drawing of names from a hat, to any fisherman who is qualified, regardless of where he lives, provided he fishes the Horse Islands area. In this example, therefore, the three licences could be awarded to three fishermen in St. Anthony or in Little Bay Islands, or they could be dispersed in a variety of areas. In effect, it is possible that no licence could be awarded to a fisherman in White Bay, so that the plants in La Scie and Fleur de Lys would not benefit.

I have today written to the Honourable Romeo LeBlanc explaining our concerns. We would appreciate your assistance.

You are probably aware that the plant in La Scie only worked its crab section for a third of the days it was open last year, due to the shortage of crab to process. The only crab they could obtain was that not needed by other plants. Dr. Ches Blackwood, who is very eager to take over and complete the Fleur de Lys plant, has indicated that he cannot pursue this venture unless he can be assured of the delivery of crab to the plant. The opening of this plant could provide employment to 250 people.

We have indicated to the Federal Fisheries officials that our research suggests that four licences are warranted to feed the La Scie plant, and four to six seem justified for the Fleur de Lys plant.

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It is imperative in our view that the plant at Fleur de Lys be completed as soon as possible. It is very desirable that the work force at La Scie be increased. The crab fishery is the answer to both.

In view of the present economic situation on the Baie Verte Peninsula, it is our contention that crab licences should, and indeed must, be awarded to fishermen who operate out of the Peninsula and who, by landing their catch on the Peninsula, would create jobs in the processing industry. Cannot special consideration be made in these circumstances so that the regulations do not perpetuate our problems?

We are also advised by the Federal Fisheries officials that their scientists suggest that there is about an additional half a million pound of crab available between the Horse and Grey Islands. Fishermen with whom we have spoken consider this to be not only an extremely conservative but indeed an unrealistic figure.

It has also been suggested to us that as there are eleven crab licences presently in the possession of fishermen on Little Bay Islands, the awarding of additional licences to the number we request is not viable. The Little Bay Islands fishermen fish the Horse Islands and the number of licences should be nearly sufficient for all the plants around. We would be grateful for information on the number of these fishermen who prosecute the crab fishery full time. It has been suggested that some of these licences are lying dormant.

A need for the Peninsula, expressed in all our public meetings, is a one hundred ton lift to enable fishermen to have their boats properly serviced on the Peninsula. We understand that this is a Federal matter and would appreciate your advice and reaction.

Finally, we are very eager to meet with the Federal-Provincial Task Force appointed to look into the problems of one-industry towns such as Baie Verte and Uranium City. Could you please look into the possibility of such a meeting, and if we have to travel, advise us of the feasibility of the Federal Government sharing in the cost of our expenses?

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

D.M.Parry

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BAIE VERTE PENINSULA TASK FORCE

D.M.Parry
Chairman

Father W. Matthews
Secretary

P.O. Box 338,
Baie Verte,
Newfoundland A0K 1B0.

82 04 26

The Honourable Romeo LeBlanc,
Minister of Fisheries,
House of Commons,
Ottawa.

Dear Minister,

The Premier of the Province of Newfoundland, the Honouranle Brian Peckford, appointed a Task Force in October 1981 to review the economic potential of the Baie Verte Peninsula. This appointment was subsequent to the threatened closure of two mines on the Peninsula. The two mines provide employment for 904 people. At the time of writing, both mines are closed.

As part of our research we have conducted meetings in every community on the Peninsula. We have also met with various departments of the Provincial Government and with representatives of your Ministry. I am sure you will appreciate that one of the major concerns on the Peninsula is for the future of the fishery.

An area that concerns is deeply is the awarding of crab licences. We have directly off our shores one of the best crab beds in Eastern Canada. This is situated around the Horse Islands and extends northwards to the Grey Islands.

The largest fish plant on the Peninsula is operated by National Sea Products in La Scie. It is licenced to process crab. Last year it only operated its crab section for one third of the time that it was operable due to the shortage of crab. The only crab delivered to the plant was that not needed by other plants situated off the Peninsula. We also have a large partially completed plant in Fleur de Lys. This plant is also licenced to process crab. An interested fish plant entrepreneur has been found who is very eager to take over the plant in Fleur de Lys, provided he can be guaranteed the delivery of crab. The Fleur de Lys plant has a potential to employ 250 people, and if the crab section at La Scie operated to its full capacity it would offer employment to up to a further 50 people. These are opportunities that we cannot allow to be missed.

We, after discussion with the various fishermen on the Peninsula and with the Manager of the plant in La Scie, have recommended the awarding

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of four crab licences to feed into the La Scie plant, and between four and six licences to feed into the Fleur de Lys plant.

We have been advised by your officials in the Province of the customary procedure for the awarding of licences. We understand that, once it has been determined that additional licences can be awarded and you have approved the same, then the licences are awarded to fishermen who meet the necessary requirements. In view of the large number of interested fishermen it has been suggested that their names will be drawn from a 'hat', and any qualified fisherman, regardless of where he lives, provided he is prepared to fish the qualifying area, can qualify for a licence. This means, of course, that any new licences issued, could be awarded to fishermen who live miles away from the Horse Islands and who would not deliver their catch anywhere on our Peninsula. The benefit of new licences would not alleviate our unemployment problem at all.

It has also been suggested to us that the scientific research shows the availability of an additional one half million pounds of crab around the Horse Islands. Fishermen to whom we have spoken consider this to be both a very conservative and an unrealistic figure.

There are at the moment about eleven crab-licenced fishermen operating out of Little Bay Islands. This number of licences has been considered sufficient for the needs of Green Bay and White Bay, and adequate for the supply of crab. We have received some indication that all these licences are not being prosecuted full time, however. Even if they were, the crab caught is delivered in its entirety to the plant at Little Bay Islands. The plants on the Baie Verte Peninsula which are nearer to the crab beds receive little to none of the crab for processing.

In view of the present economic situation on the Baie Verte Peninsula, it is our contention that crab licences should, and indeed must, be awarded to fishermen who operate out of the Peninsula and who, by landing their catch on the Peninsula, would create jobs in the processing industry. Cannot special consideration be made in these circumstances so that the regulations do not perpetuate our problems?

I would be most appreciative if you could look into the possibility of awarding licences to the fishermen on the Baie Verte Peninsula. Your overall reaction would be welcomed.

Yours sincerely,

D.M.Parry

c.c. William Pompkey, M.P.
Phonse Pittman, District Protection Officer, Grand Falls.

C00109

High Liner

NATIONAL SEA PRODUCTS LIMITED

P. O. Box 160
La Scie, Nfld.
A0K 3M0
May 18, 1982

Mr. D. M. Parry, Chairman
Baie Verte Peninsula Task Force
P. O. Box 338
Baie Verte, Nfld.
A0K 1B0

Dear Sir:

I wish to reply to your letter of May 13, 1982, re questions concerning the La Scie Fish Plant for the year 1981.

(1)	Total processing area, approximately		55,000 sq. ft.
(2)	Employees during busiest week	-	475
(3)	Total employees paid	-	665
(4)	Total Office Staff	-	20
(5)	Total fishermen paid	-	743

The plant operated a total of 154 working days, and purchased in excess of 16,000,000 pounds of fish. Approximately 40% of this was taken over the wharf at La Scie, the balance being purchased from twelve (12) fishing Communities in the area, and transported to the La Scie Plant, iced, in insulated containers.

One of the biggest problems confronting our operation is the transportation of fish from the smaller Communities. Road conditions have improved very slowly during the past seven years, since the road to La Scie was pvaed. There has not been an inch of pavement laid over any road East of Baie Verte during that period. The only work done on any road on the Baie Verte Peninsula during the past year, to my knowledge, is in an area where we do not collect fish. It is high time our Government recognized the problem we are experiencing in trying to operate a fish collecting system over these roads, and took some positive effort be made to correct it.

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Your statement that you understand that much of the fish landed at La Scie this year will be shipped out without being processed is news to me. No plans have been made, or were even discussed by Officials of our Company, to implement such a program. The plant will operate the same as in previous years with emphasis being placed on maximizing production.

Best wishes for every success on your efforts.

Sincerely yours,

Claude Martin
Division Manager

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Office of the Minister
Fisheries and Oceans

Cabinet du Ministre
Pêches et Océans

MAY - 5 1982

Mr. D.M. Parry
Chairman
Baie Verte Peninsula Task Force
P.O. Box 338
Baie Verte
Newfoundland
A0K 1B0

Dear Mr. Parry:

On behalf of the Honourable Roméo LeBlanc, I would like to thank you for your letter dated April 26, 1982, with regard to the issuing of crab licences.

Please be assured that your letter will be brought to the Minister's attention.

Yours sincerely,

Dixi Lambert

Dixi Lambert
Correspondence Secretary

Ottawa, Canada
K1A 0E6

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HYDRO

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR HYDRO

June 9, 1982

Mr. William Dixon,
Baie Verte Task Force,
P.O. Box 279,
Baie Verte, Nfld.
A0K 1B0

Dear Mr. Dixon:

At the meeting which Hydro held with the Baie Verte Task Force, it was agreed that we would review the opportunity for mini-hydro developments in the area. You were kind enough to identify a number of sites which the Task Force members thought may have potential and this was supplemented by our own review.

As you are aware, from subsequent telephone briefings a number of sites were judged inappropriate for serious consideration due to environmental conflicts, or their obvious high cost of development in relation to potential electrical output. These were:

Woodstock River (also known as Pacquet River);

Burlington River (also known as East Brook); and

Middle Arm River.

Our attention therefore focused on Wild Cove Brook and Rattling Brook. To facilitate analysis, Hydro retained Acres Consulting Services Limited to prepare preliminary capital cost, capacity and energy estimates for each site. Additional information on the cost of three phase 12.5 KV line and three phase 25 KV line to interconnect the Wild Cove site with Westport and the Rattling Brook site with

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the local Baie Verte distribution system was prepared by Power Distribution District staff.

Rattling Brook has an estimated nominal capacity of 188 KW and an estimated average annual energy output of 890 MWH. Its cost, inclusive of a .6 km 3 phase 25 KV link to the Baie Verte grid would be about $950,000.

The Wild Cove Brook site has an estimated nominal capacity of 402 KW and an estimated average annual energy capability of 1,896 MWH. Its cost, inclusive of a 6.5 km 3 phase 12.5 KV line is estimated at approximately $1.7 million.

This data was then subject to economic analysis by Hydro's Systems Planning Department. The Rattling Brook site was evaluated (like all other grid interconnections) in terms of its ability to displace thermal generation at Holyrood. Wild Cove Brook was assessed in terms of its potential to displace the more costly diesel generation at Westport.

The conclusion of our analysis was that the Wild Cove Brook alternative appeared to be economic, whereas the Rattling Brook site is not. In reaching this conclusion no cost allowance was provided for the environmental concerns related to Wild Cove Brook, even though it is a scheduled salmon river. Our Environmental Services Department has been in touch with Federal Fisheries and we know that some provision for salmon enhancement would have to be made if this site was developed, and this would increase the cost but the project may still prove attractive.

The question which the Task Force posed during our meeting was whether any of the mini-hydro sites on the Baie Verte Peninsula were worthy of further serious consideration for potential development. Hydro has concluded that the Wild Cove Brook site is worthy of further analysis. Of course, there are other sites on the Island and in Labrador which fall into the same

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category. Therefore, I am not able to promise that the additional work will be undertaken during 1982, but some funding has been budgeted by Newfoundland Hydro for such work. I will ensure that the Wild Cove Brook site is reviewed.

With kind personal regards.

Yours very truly,

D. W. Mercer, Vice-President,
Corporate Planning Division.

DWM/tcs

POOR

QUALITY

ORIGINAL